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THE TIMES

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Why Oxfam will
never be the
same again, page 14

Professor Blunt still in Britain, friend confirms

essor Anthony Blunt, the "London flat until yesterday morning although his lawyer had not left Britain, a close friend been told that he was to be named yesterday. He stayed in his in the Commons.

Spy 'feels bound by secrets Act'

Stewart Teedler and
by Mr Edward Leachitter, MP
for Harlesden, did not name
the professor and the Cabinet Office said that in answering the question my client's name would be given.

He added: "It was not a tip-off, it was done as a matter of courtesy."

The Home Minister's statement raised many questions for which answers are still being sought. One of these is whether the Queen was told in 1964 (when Professor Blunt confessed) and was given immunity what had happened.

Friends of Professor Blunt, Mr Sewell said, were aware there were shadows in the early years. He has been a happier man since 1964. The immunity enabled him to go on for so long pursuing his professional career without any difficulties.

Talking about rumours that Professor Blunt could have been tipped off about what was coming by a "fifth man", Mr Sewell said that Professor Blunt did know a man at MI5 who could have tipped him off but he died two years ago. The man was in no way a Soviet agent but loyal to Professor Blunt.

Asked if Professor Blunt would make a statement, Mr Sewell said that Professor Blunt at the moment wanted to wait until further questions had been answered in the Commons. He also felt bound by the Official Secrets Act.

Mr Rubinstein said that Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet, and an old friend, telephoned him on Wednesday morning and asked him to call at the Cabinet Office at 10.30 am. Out of courtesy, Mr Rubinstein was told Professor Blunt would be named.

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Mr Rubinstein said he knew there were to be questions in the Commons and Professor Blunt was named in the questions. The question ended.

Continued on page 2, col 6

Opposition mount pressure to curtail information Bill scope

George Clark
Political Correspondent

The Government's protection of information Bill should be withdrawn in the light of the revelations, claimed Margaret Thatcher's statement against Professor Anthony Steel, the liberal leader, said last night.

Both Labour and Liberal peers want more time to consider strategic amendments to the Bill, by Lord Elwyn-Jones, the former Chancellor, and other Labour peers, in the House of Lords.

Mr Steel, speaking in Edinburgh, said there had been scarcely any public or parliamentary debate on the security services.

"It is an appalling commentary on this state of affairs that took the American Freedom of Information Act to release its spy secrets of the British establishment," he said.

Even then, we might not have been entitled to know if the Tories' protection of information Bill had been on the statute book.

"In the face of yesterday's disclosures, I trust that the Government will now be ashamed into withdrawing this Bill."

Mortgage rate likely to reach 15pc

Mortgage interest payments are expected to rise to a record rate of 15 per cent after the increase in inflation lending rate and the Government's decision to introduce more attractive National Savings rates. An emergency meeting of the Building Societies Association has been called for next Thursday to discuss the effects of the new MRS. Higher mortgage rates could be brought into effect on January 1st to replace the increases announced last July.

Page 21

Ex-Emperor Bokassa says he is broke

Mr Jean Bedel Bokassa, deposed Emperor of the Central African Empire, was quoted by a Paris newspaper as saying he was broke and bitterly regretted the sale of his castle in France to a French businessman. He said he had asked his son, Saint Cyr Bokassa, to try to cancel the sale.

In a statement issued by the BBC board of governors, inquiring into the filming by a "Panorama" team of IRA activity in Carrickmore, Co Tyrone, confusion has been ruled out. But the board aired their concern over questions of editorial control. The rules covering programmes on Ulster affairs will be more strictly enforced.

Page 2

Continued on page 2, col 6

HOME NEWS

Ford move towards pay deal despite rejection by union

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Ford management, appeared last night to be moving towards a pay settlement with their 59,000 manual workers despite firm union rejection of a "totally unacceptable" offer worth 16.34 per cent.

Mr Ronald Todd, chairman of the union side of the Ford National Joint Negotiating Committee, accused the company of "almost contemptuously dismissing nearly all the elements" of a comprehensive pay, working time and conditions claim which, according to the company, would cost over 60 per cent if met in full.

He made it plain that negotiators had been disappointed by the pay offer, said by the company to be their highest in cash terms, as by the refusal of the company to make any concession to the unions' demand for shorter working hours.

Next Wednesday and Friday have been set aside for negotiations to take place in earnest. Veteran union negotiators were still hopeful last night of achieving an early settlement without a repetition of last year's costly strike.

The union side, judging by past form, expect the company to respond to their unequivocal rejection of an offer which gives an 11.1 increase to the £2.5 basic pay shift rate earned by the biggest group of workers, 27,000 on "B" grade, with improvements over next week's negotiations to a final offer of about 20 per cent.

Since Ford are a traditional pace-setter, such an offer would help to make increases of around a fifth a "going rate" for those groups which have tried industrial strength.

GLC fears on fifth air terminal

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

To foist a fifth terminal at Heathrow airport on to west London would be "horrendous", creating chaos on roads already congested and bringing an unacceptable increase in aircraft noise, Mr Alan Green-gross, planning and communications policy leader of the Greater London Council, said yesterday.

He expressed fears that the search for a third airport for London would be halted and a fifth terminal built at Heathrow. A decision on a fourth terminal at the airport to cope with an additional eight million passengers a year is awaited from the Government.

A fifth terminal could add a further 15 million passengers a year. "The GLC did not oppose in principle a fourth terminal, subject to important conditions, including that there should be no fifth terminal," he said. In no circumstances will the council change its stance on the matter.

The only valid answer to London's third airport dilemma was a two-centre airport, with the runways on Mafin sands and many of the terminal buildings and associated activities in east London.

That would do much to redress the economic and social balance between east and west London and would provide jobs where there was unemployment.

Appealed dismissed: An appeal by British Caledonian Airways against a decision of the Civil Aviation Authority to allow a variation in the conditions of the licence held by Laker Airways on its London-Los Angeles route was dismissed yesterday by Mr Michael Scott, Secretary of State for Trade.

The variation allowed Laker to carry cargo and mail, and to sell tickets in advance and through travel agents without restriction on what was begun as a no-bookings Skytrain service.

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Dispute over magazine stops newspaper

By Alan Hamilton
The London Evening News

Mr Paul Roots, leader of the management's negotiating team, made it clear yesterday that the company were not departing from last year's stance that "the way to increase is economic growth - competition in price, quality and delivery, none of which will be made better by reducing hours".

Union negotiators, however, are likely to indicate next week that they might be prepared to accept a forward commitment to reduced hours provided that it was firm enough. The 39-hour week negotiated for more than a million workers employed by members of the Engineering Employers' Federation does not come into force until 1981.

A phasing in of shorter hours in Ford (which is not an EEF member) over the next two years could possibly be tied to automatic working processes and other technological developments due at the Halewood plant next year for manufacture of the Escort replacement (code-named Erica), and at Dagenham the year after.

The company yesterday made it plain they were not prepared to consolidate on to basic rates the "attendance allowance" negotiated after bitter initial opposition by the unions last year. Instead they were prepared to increase the payments made to employees for each week they do not take part in strikes.

The company are confident that the attendance scheme is working well. As evidence they point to the number of days put in a month this year, which at 24 is about half the average over the past five years. An average of 1795 vehicles were lost a month this year because the paper's shaky financial position, but the offer had been refused.

His members were also angry because the management had not kept them fully informed on plans for the magazine.

Associated Newspapers said last night that it might still be possible to distribute the 500,000 copies of the colour magazine with a future edition of the paper.

Grant settlement assumes 4 pc spending cut

By Kenneth Gosling
The filming by a Panorama team of IRA men in Carrickmore, co Tyrone, last month was a relatively peripheral matter which was initially grossly exaggerated and misrepresented.

The BBC board of governors said last night it was satisfied there had been no collusion between the producer and the IRA.

However, the statement said the board were "very concerned about questions of editorial control throughout the preparation of the projected programme of which the Carrickmore filming may have formed a part."

The Government is expected

to grant a "realistic allowance" for a debate yesterday and it is assumed that if it is granted,

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who as Prime Minister, is head of the Security Service, will speak.

Much would depend, however, if it was stated, on the type of motion that was presented.

There were further demands for a debate yesterday and it is assumed that if it is granted,

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, who as Prime Minister, is head of the Security Service, will speak.

Much would depend, however, if it was stated, on the type of motion that was presented.

There was intense speculation at Westminster yesterday over how Professor Blunt was first informed that he was to be named by the Prime Minister.

Government sources said that Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet, had, on the Prime Minister's instructions, informed Mr Michael Rubinstein, Professor Blunt's lawyer, on Wednesday morning as a matter of courtesy.

While MPs were putting on

pressure in the Commons for a debate, publicly from the Labour backbenches and privately from some Conservative MPs, it is felt that the Commons would be allowed to express an opinion.

The demand for an emergency debate will be made on Monday by Mr William Bamford, Labour MP for Fife Central.

It is known yesterday that she is due to answer another written question on Tuesday. That is from Mr Robert Cryer, Labour MP for Keighley, who asked the Prime Minister "if any persons other than Sir Anthony Blunt have been granted immunities, waivers or concessions of any kind in connexion with the defection of Burgess and MacLean".

The statement added that the

Government expected

the organisation to find men of

the required reduction from school meals, milk and transport. "It

should then be possible to

maintain staffing and other

standards in the schools as a

result of savings in costs," Mr

Carlisle insisted.

He said that the settlement

made a "realistic allowance"

through cash limits for

increases in costs that had

occurred since November, 1978;

for further increases up to the

end of this financial year as a

result of reports from the

Clegg commission on pay com-

parability; and for the conse-

quences next year both of

the Clegg awards and of other cost

increases.

The statement added that the

Government had no knowl-

edge of what was going on in

the Clegg commission.

The Provisional Sinn Fein

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months ago. Court proceedings

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The Provisional Sinn Fein

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us from our homes."

The Housing Executive said

the Provisional Sinn Fein had

applied for tenancy of the

premises but had been refused

as it was not in the

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THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17 1979

"To starve the mind, most odious
of crimes, Sunday's not Sunday sans
The Sunday Times."

Sir John, your Sunday Times is back.

HOME NEWS

Controversial report on smallpox outbreak at university awaiting publication decision by ministry

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

The Department of Health said yesterday that no date had been fixed for publishing the controversial report by Professor R. A. Shooter into the smallpox outbreak at Birmingham University last year.

Earlier this month Birmingham magistrates in effect rejected many of the report's conclusions, finding that the university had not failed to ensure as far as practicable the health and safety of its employees in the medical school.

Professor Shooter, Professor of Medical Microbiology at London University and Dean of the medical college of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, headed the government inquiry into the outbreak, which led to the death of Mrs Janet Parker, who had worked in a department above the smallpox laboratory. Professor Henry Bedford, virologist in charge of the laboratory, later killed himself.

The Department of Health said the report was being con-

sidered with a view to publication, but no date had been selected.

The magistrates who dismissed the charge against the university heard two expert witnesses, one for the prosecution and the other for the defence, who both said the smallpox laboratory had been "clean".

A piece of evidence omitted from the Shooter report involved radioactivity tests. Mr Reginald Farr, head of medical physics at Queen Elizabeth Medical Centre, Birmingham, was commissioned by the inquiry to test for radioactivity with instruments capable of detecting one ten millionth of a microcurie per centimetre.

The reason for his involvement was that viruses in the laboratory were labelled with radioactive substances, and it was thought that would reveal any trace of escaped virus. But after exhaustive tests Mr Farr's report was negative and did not appear in the final inquiry report.

The inquiry favoured the theory that Mrs Parker was infected by airborne smallpox that probably escaped through a service duct as a result of bad laboratory practices. But four

Race body to inquire into borough housing rule

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

The Commission for Racial Equality is planning to investigate the housing policy of the London borough of Hillingdon. A test case is also to be brought by two sets of immigrants to see whether the council has a duty to them under the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977.

A year ago Mr Terry Dicks, chairman of Hillingdon's housing committee, turned an immigrant family over to the Foreign Office as its responsibility. Hillingdon had given them temporary accommodation for the night.

At that time Mr Dicks said he had given temporary accommodation to 14 families, including the one sent by taxi to the Foreign Office. He was quoted as saying: "Seven of these were whites. Seven were non-whites. So you see I am not a racialist."

Mr Nicholas Rainsford, director of London Housing Aid Centre, told *the Times* yesterday it had dealt with the family of a widower, Mohamed Jaffer Janmohamed, and his four children, after they had been turned away.

Hillingdon has reviewed its obligations to house applicants arriving in Britain through Heathrow airport and who claim to be homeless.

The council told an applicant who had come from Cyprus with his wife and three children that as he had never had a local connection with the area of any housing authority in Great Britain, the council could not do him under the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act.

The council takes the view that even if the Act did apply, then he cannot be considered homeless because he has accommodation in Cyprus, which he deliberately left to emigrate.

The other case involves a woman with a child who applied to the council for housing shortly after she arrived from Greece. The council has told her also that it owes her no duty under the Act.

The reasons are similar to those in the first case, and "further, the fact that the applicant, a foreign national, is not entitled to remain permanently in Great Britain, her permission to stay being only for six months".

Both applicants are legally represented and Hillingdon Council understands that proceedings will soon begin challenging its decision.

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EST EUROPE

M Barre's fortunes recover after period of gloom

Charles Hargrove
Nov 16

In the political fortunes of M. Alain Barre, the French Minister, which only a few weeks ago seemed to have reached their lowest ebb since his last office in the summer of 1968, he has taken a definite up for the better. But it was allegedly involved in real estate scandal in the south of France; his health had been under the strain and had to go into hospital at time of the opening of the last debate; and President Giscard d'Estaing had, so political analysts thought at least, turned him with faint praise, a man "without any personal vision".

Finally on a visit to his constituency of Libourne, M. Barre, recently exiled the stateship of M. Robert Boulin, late Minister of Labour, and tipped in recent months a future head of government. This was enough to start a spate of rumours that M. Barre was politically condemned, and to open once again the lobbies bets on his possible successor.

Now the situation is completely reversed. President Giscard d'Estaing, it was learnt yesterday, has sent the Prime Minister a letter outlining the government's tasks for the next months—hardly sign that the forecasters' future bets are still open.

M. Barre's personal standing in the latest opinion poll published by *France-Soir* today shows a spectacular recovery. While people satisfied with him has risen in one month by no less than 12 points—41 per cent—his best score almost a year and a half.

Finally, the Gaullists, who

stayed seem to start a new chapter in Parliament. A proposal may yet would be for the cuts to be incorporated in a supplementary budget voted in the course of next year.

M. Barre has never attained excessive popularity—indeed, to opinion, polls, like both his health and his resolve would have broken down half a dozen times in the past three years, and he knows they can be interpreted in many different ways.

But this latest one cannot fail to give him satisfaction. Having been widely described as the most unpopular Prime Minister France has ever had, he has now, without budging one iota from his chosen line of policy, effected a spectacular recovery.

He once declared in private that "any man normal that the man should not be satisfied with him, after all the bitter pills that he had made them swallow. They often told him so when he travelled about the country. But before taking leave of him, they often took him by the arm into a corner and said in a low voice: naturally, you will stay on and will not change your policy."

The Queenberry rules are not conspicuously honoured in French politics, yet Frenchmen do respect political courage even in unpopular causes. M. Barre is received with some sympathy to the doubly a victim first of unjustified attacks over his alleged involvement in a scandal, which proved, on his critics' own admission, utterly groundless; and secondly of his devotion to duty, to which he sacrificed his health. It was enough to help to swing the tide.

Angry sheep farmers meet M Giscard

From Ian Murray
Toulouse, Nov 16

President Giscard d'Estaing had to face up to two of his most trying problems before his Government—French soldiers and British sheep.

He came to Rodez in the Languedoc, the capital of the French rearing country, where the biggest demonstrations about the British lamb imports take place.

During this brief visit to the south-west the President had to accustom himself to crowds waving banners more than to crowds waving flags. In Rodez one painted banner showing sheep grazing on mountain pastures summed up the two problems. "The sheep will conquer", it said. "Larzac will live."

The Larzac plain has been a wrangling sore with the French administration for nine years now since compulsory orders were served on the sheep farmers there so that the Army could use their land to extend

its camp and shooting range already there. But the sheep farmers of Larzac have fought the soldiers off.

With money derived in large part from conscientious objectors, they have succeeded in buying up much of the contested land.

The President dealt in his luncheon speech with the problem of British sheep. The local farmers are convinced that Britain is trying to flood the French market with New Zealand lamb.

This will be one of the main subjects broached during the Franco-British summit in London at the beginning of next week. The President today pledged his Government's determination to defend the interests of the sheep rearing of Averyron.

From Rodez the President flew on to Toulouse where a large left-wing and union demonstration paralysed the centre of the city for two hours. Many workers were on strike for the day and the schools were shut.

E German buying squeeze

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, Nov 16

The endless rumours about higher prices for consumer goods and greater shortages of East German consumer goods have been discounted by a Magdeburg paper.

Der Neue Weg (The New Way) admitted, however, that there were bottlenecks in the supply of inexpensive goods and that some items such as bicycles, towels and sheets, were overpriced.

It also indirectly confirmed Western reports of people drawing from their savings accounts to buy what was available. The paper blamed them for upsetting the balance between supply and demand, but it did not mention the products of the principle that enough low- and medium-priced goods should be produced.

Relatively inexpensive bed

sheets of East German origin had become a scarcity. Instead, expensive imported ones were available to some extent. People were complaining that they used to get at least two sets for the price of one. They also grumbled about the super-bicycle for 750 East German marks (about £200).
Giant towels and the lack of usual items for 200 to 300 marks.

Some of the ordinary price increases were taken back recently and some lower priced goods are available again. The special shops which offer Western food items for excessive prices continue to be crowded.

The East German Government has so far resisted the example of other east bloc states of increasing consumer prices in general. By various ways attempts were made to achieve the purpose indirectly.

People called it cheating.

Suicide casts shadow over press

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Nov 16

A formidable campaign against the press was unleashed in political circles after the suicide of M. Robert Boulin, the former Minister of Labour. In the free and cry, questions were raised about the limits of press freedom and there were even calls for placing legal restrictions on it.

M. Boulin took his life after disclosures by the weekly satirical journal *Le Canard Enchaîné*, the extreme right-wing magazine *Minuit*, and *Le Monde* about his alleged involvement in property transactions.

President Giscard d'Estaing condemned these revelations as "methods unworthy of France". M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, told a group of journalists at the Elysée: "I ask you to meditate on the consequences of a certain ignominy and a great baseness."

M. Chaban-Delmas, the president of the National Assembly, spoke of "assassination". M. Jean Foyer, a former Gaullist Minister of Justice, declared that "the pen is as effective in killing people as poison."

M. Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, joined the chorus of accusers,igmatizing



THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17 1979

OVERSEAS

Marching thousands in Iran become ever more strident

From Robert Fisk
Tehran, Nov 16

In the largest demonstration of its kind since the American Embassy in Tehran was seized by militant Islamic students 12 days ago, tens of thousands of Iranians tramped through the centre of the city today in support of the embassy occupation and the holding of the hostages.

away for a meeting in support of the Fedayeen, the left-wing guerrilla movement, which is now illegal in Iran. The Fedayeen do not support the embassy occupation but have so far not voiced their opposition.

The Islamic sabbath has become a traditional day of demonstrations. If the American Government had hoped that the week's events—the bating of imports of Iranian oil to the United States and the freezing of Iranian Government assets in America—had created a more realistic atmosphere in Tehran towards negotiations for the hostages' release, it must have been deeply disappointed.

Mr. Bazargan, sitting cross-legged on the ground, listened without expression as Ayatollah Monzazari, head of the committee of experts who have just completed writing the new Islamic constitution, told his audience that "the will of the Iranian people was behind the occupation".

Dr Ibrahim Yazdi, the former Foreign Minister, sat next to Mr. Bazargan, who resigned last week because of the embassy seizure had undermined his Government's credibility.

Almost half a million students were gathering not far

from the Rhodesia Department of the Foreign Office.

Curiously enough, though one imagines the Foreign Office as a place of high ceilings rooms lit by chandeliers, the Rhodesia section is up in the attic and looks a bit like the interior of a beached submarine.

Perhaps that is a reflection of the problem's inaccessibility all these years.

The senior official in charge, Sir Anthony Duff, has been the chief mover behind the scenes. A tall, quiet unassuming man with a shy, shy sense of humour, he is an old Africa hand having been High Commissioner in Nairobi.

In the early days of the conference he clearly went a long way toward gaining the confidence of both sides in working on the new constitution. His admission to hospital for surgery last month has left a big gap in the British ranks.

To the extent that the Foreign Secretary deserves what credit may be going, as he would be quick to recognize the conference could never have got as far as it has without some very powerful support

Quiet cheer by British on conference success**A glow from the Rhodesia attic**

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Victory, as Napoleon observed, has many fathers, so it is hardly surprising that the success, up to now, of the Rhodesian constitutional conference is not one man's work.

In any case Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, began the conference in a pessimistic frame of mind, and is not all that optimistic, even now. Certainly, he would not regard the past 10 weeks as the happiest time of his life.

Still, it was Lord Carrington's game plan which set the course for the conference and which has proved so effective so far. He decided, looking at all the previous efforts to get a settlement in Rhodesia, that whatever their theoretical merits they were far too complicated. Hence his approach of taking each issue one step at a time.

To the extent that the Foreign Secretary deserves what credit may be going, as he would be quick to recognize the conference could never have got as far as it has without some very powerful support

rather than concentrating on the objections to a given policy. People like Mr Renwick, and Mr Patrick Laver, his predecessor, give the impression that they know more about the minutiae of Rhodesian politics than most people know about their own home towns.

Previously in living in Salisbury as the British contact man, but now back in London, another key member of the team is Mr Derek Day, formerly Ambassador in Addis Ababa.

The style of the British delegation has been set by Mr Nick Fearn, the conference spokesman. There is a steady precision to his answers which tend to wrap up imprecise questions like a combine harvester.

The senior official in charge, Sir Anthony Duff, has been the chief mover behind the scenes. A tall, quiet unassuming man with a shy, shy sense of humour, he is an old Africa hand having been High Commissioner in Nairobi.

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After their success, the British team have let themselves go so far as to utter a restrained "hooray". But considering the immense difficulties ahead no one is really celebrating.

Future looks doubtful for Smith party

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, Nov 16

Is there any future left for the all-white Rhodesian Front, the party which was responsible for the Unilateral Declaration of Independence 14 years ago?

Now that the party must finally face the reality of black majority rule, some members feel it no longer has a role to play and should either be disbanded or at least revamped.

However other members, probably a majority, feel strongly that the party should make sure it wins all of the 20 white seats in the new 100-seat assembly.

Neither before nor after the hostages' liberation will the Americans discuss the Shah's extradition. If the hostages are set free, safe and sound, the Americans would be willing to inform Iran officially of the Shah's state of health and his intentions—whether and when he might return to Mexico, or go elsewhere.

According to a spokesman for the Shah, Mr Robert Armano, the Shah has received the first three of a series of 10 radiation sessions to treat a tumour in his neck. He has responded well so far, but no decision on whether he can be moved can be taken until the treatment is completed next week.

The Shah was admitted to hospital in New York on October 22.

Normal policing of the country will therefore be carried out, under the British governor's orders, by the existing police and security forces, probably expanded by another big call-up of reserves which is being prepared. The Patriotic Front are expected to lay claim to control of certain areas in the country, but the demand that they concentrate merely in assembly points is said to be non-negotiable.

The Patriotic Front have also been pressing for their troops to be paid by Britain, but they

will not receive anything other than free accommodation and food.

The Salisbury delegation is concerned also that, if the election campaign starts to show that Bishop Mugabe is in a commanding position, the guerrillas will take to the hills and lie low until they continue with the war after losing the election.

Threats of this kind are already being made, but there is no provision for the Commonwealth military force to stop such a development.

The jitters in Salisbury are the outcome of Lancaster House, a representative of the right-wing element of the Rhodesian Front Party—those supporting Mr Ian Smith, the former Prime Minister, rather than Mr David Smith, the present Finance Minister. The Rhodesian Front appears to be sending our feelings to Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zulu wing of the Patriotic Front. Lancaster House delegates yesterday were discussing the implications of the arrival of Mr Boss Liford, a former Rhodesian Front vice-president.

These cracks are mirrored on the black political side where said the two wings of the Patriotic Front. Mr Nkomo's Zulu wing of the Patriotic Front Lancaster House delegates yesterday were preparing to fight the election separately.

Kissinger anger over Cambodia

Continued from page 1

who had the original and corrected proofs to hand. Which version was the truth?

"Both" Dr Kissinger replied, launching into an enormously detailed answer that left Mr Page thinking him but adding, "which is not in the book".

Dr Kissinger admitted several times that the United States had made mistakes over Cambodia, but he did not specify them. But his known wish to have had his country intervene there earlier and harder came through only in his lament over Washington's ambivalence in "never doing enough to prevail and doing enough to keep the war going".

He resisted the accusation that the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia was the fault of the Americans.

He said the record showed that North Vietnam resisted all his efforts to keep Cambodia neutral in 1970-71 years after the secret US bombing of Cambodian sanctuaries began.

Dr Kissinger would admit to one regret concerning the Middle East. It was that in 1974, he had not persuaded the Israeli disengagement to Jordan, and so averted the present problem with the Palestine Liberation Organization. He blamed it on the Israelis—and Watergate—depriving the United States of presidential power.

Dr Kissinger was not running for the Senate—not yet anyway.

He would reconsider if Senator Jacob Javits of New York were to retire. He had no prediction who would win the presidential election next year, but he held himself ready to be consulted by any candidate.

Shawcross case: Last night Mr Shawcross said: "Dr Kissinger's book proves my case that in Cambodia was a sideshow. He deals only with the 1969 secret bombing and the 1970 invasion and then Cambodia entirely disappears for over two years and 900 pages."

Extracts give taste of years of power

The exclusive serialization of Henry Kissinger's memoirs begins in *The Sunday Times* tomorrow. The first extracts from *White House Years* give a taste of the range and richness of this monumental volume with its unique view of the history of our time, its extraordinary portrait of Richard Nixon and its fascinating vignettes of other men in power.

Nearly half of those asked believe that radio and television are subjected to a kind of censorship in France; and 25 per cent that the journalists themselves practise a form of self-censorship, in suppressing news which might get them into trouble with the authorities.

WEEKEND WORLD

—where television journalists enjoy the right to explore and explain issues that could shape our destiny

A new series of this influential weekly current affairs programme presented by Brian Walden from



STARS THIS Saturday 10pm

OVERSEAS

Two Arab mayors accuse Israelis of trying to silence them by bringing trumped-up charges

From Christopher Walker

Ramallah, Nov 16
As protest strikes continued today throughout the occupied West Bank, two of the Arab mayors who have resigned alleged that the Israeli Government was using fictitious legal charges against them in an effort to silence their opposition to Palestinian autonomy.

Mr Karim Khalaf, former mayor of Ramallah, and Mr Ibrahim Tawil, former mayor of the neighbouring town of El-Bira, accused the Israeli authorities of attempting to exploit a section of Jordanian law. This decree, that a public servant found guilty of a crime which includes "disgrace" may be removed from public office, and prevented from seeking relection.

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davall

TELEVISION

BBC1

9.30 am: *The World of Rugby* (The Way Ahead) (r).
 9.30 am: *Multi-Coloured Swap Shop*: the all-purpose entertainment phone-in and exchange-gifts programme for young viewers. *Breast* (compered by Noel Edmunds). *World's fastest runner* Sebastian Coe is a guest.
 12.12 pm: *Weather*.
 12.15 pm: *Games*: tennis, including football final; racing at Ascot at 12.50, 1.25, 1.55 and 2.30; International Squash at 1.10 and 1.45; International Tennis (the Benson and Hedges Championships) at 2.50 and 4.45; Rugby (Wales v Bradford Northern v Walsall) (TV) at 2.50. Final Score at 4.40.
 5.05 pm: *Who Killed Who?* (cartoon).
 5.15 pm: *News*: with Richard Whitemore.

BBC2

12.05 pm: *Open University* (Consumer Protection on the heat) (see Personal Choice).
 2.15 pm: *Lake*: first British TV screening of a full-length submitted cowboy story about a gentle sheriff.
 3.30 pm: *Play Away*: songs-and-comedy show for children. The jokes are mostly venerable, but the pace is good, and the young studio audience look satisfied.
 3.55 pm: *Film: Texas Carnival*: I agree with David Robinson's general conclusions (see *Films* on TV) but I must put in a good word for Ann Miller's dancing.

London Weekend

3.40 pm: *Sesame Street*: American series for children that combines learning with entertainment.
 9.40 pm: *The Beano*: adventure and comedy.
 10.00 pm: *Superman*: A criminal's plan to evade justice is foiled by the caped crusader.
 10.30 pm: *Thieves*: unphilosophical fun for children, which often spills over into silliness.
 12.30 pm: *World Cup Sports*: 12.35 pm: the Ball; 12.55 pm: Sport and the Cinema; 1.15 pm: racing from Newcastle at 1.30, 2.00, 2.30 and 3.00; and from Warwick at 1.45 and 2.15; 2.45 pm: All-Ireland Hurling Final; 3.00 pm: British Football Round-Up; 4.00 pm: Wrestling; 4.50 pm: Rhythmic Gymnastics.
 5.15 pm: *Happy Days*: American comedy series. Tonight: The Four couples are better off than ever.
 5.45 pm: *China*: stories about the California Highway Patrol.
 6.45 pm: *Mind Your Language*: comedy series about a language school. Very understandable entertainment for the masses.
 6.50 pm: *The Invisible Hulk*: part 2 of Mystery Man. Tonight: trapped by a forest fire.
 8.15 pm: *Freddie Stark's Variety Household*: giddy farce for a generally enterprising host.
 9.00 pm: *The Professionals*: Espionage thriller series starring Gordon Thorneycroft.

y Couper as Christine in tonight's episode of Two le (ITV, 10.15)

The unique aspect of the genius of Mike Yarwood is that his brilliance is not to be seen in his own personality, he is genuinely himself, but when he is somebody else plain truth is that, as singer and patter man, he is no more average. But when he climbs into someone else's skin in effect, slips it up tightly around him, the process of morphosis becomes almost supernatural in its effect. In his tonight (BBC 1, 8.10) he impersonates—no, becomes—Mike Barker, Robin Day, Ken Dodd, Patrick Moore, Eamonn Holmes, Eric Morecambe and John Cleese in the show is Janet Brown, the dearest any woman resonator comes to Mr Yarwood.

or his first effort in choreographing a ballet for television C 2, 8.05) Wayne Sleep has dived into the deep end. His *m' Rib* is an animated gallery of no fewer than six virtuous women—Helen of Troy, Lucretia Borgia, Lulu White (New Orleans brothel keeper), Lady Macbeth, Marilyn Monroe, Mae West. The music, a jazzy suite, is by Ken Moule, the Mr Yarwood, who would probably have danced all the men's roles himself. *M* Sleep impersonates only one of a, Mae West.

V Times, the weekly journal of independent television, uses a slogan from the old *News of the World* posters to marinate the contents of Saturday Night People (ITV, 11.15). "Human life is here", it says. To which some viewers, who this gossipy programme's glibness and self-indulgence, would probably retort that they wished it were somewhere else. In this instance, then, the Personal Choice is mine, though I am assured it is many other people's.

Todays opera event of the day (perhaps even of the next days, if you exclude next Friday's performance of Stakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*) is the Salzburg festival production of Mozart's *La clemenza di Tito* (Radio 3, 3.0). Fine cast, including Carol Neblett, Werner Hollweg and Anna Troyano.

AT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: * STEREO; * BLACK AND WHITE; REPEAT.

PERSONAL CHOICE

Sunday's programmes

TELEVISION

BBC1

8.55 am: *Bed* (Bed on the Beach) For young children (c).
 9.15 am: *Wake Up Sunday*: religious songs and stories.
 9.30 am: *National Zindagi*, Naya Jeevan: for Indian families.
 10.00 am: *Your Own Business*: the promotion of new businesses.
 10.25 am: *Let's Go!* Helping the mentally handicapped to swim (r).
 10.40 am: *Roadshow Discos*: repeat of last Monday's show from Sixteen.
 11.05 am: *TM&G France*: Maurice Chevalier and Dino Risi in a nostalgic French programme.
 11.30 am: *Aventura*: learning Italian, Part 3.
 11.55 am: *Make Your Own Furniture*: furniture making.
 12.30 pm: *Sunday Worship*: from Trinity United Reformed Church, Lancaster.
 1.00 pm: *Farming*: down-to-earth news and comment.
 2.25 pm: *Child's Place*: when children are taken into care.
 1.50 pm: *Write Away*: some help for bad spellers.
 2.00 pm: *News*.
 2.05 pm: *Dawn Patrol*. First

World War action adventure about the Royal Flying Corps (See *Films* on television).
 3.45 pm: *The High Chaparral*: old Western series, given another airing. Its age lines are showing.
 4.25 pm: *With You*: John Nolte and Elizabeth Taylor as the kipper village of Craster and other Northumberland spots.
 5.05 pm: *Rising Stars*: professional entertainers in a talent contest. Very samey, I'm afraid.
 5.30 pm: *News*: with Richard Whitemore.
 6.00 pm: *The Legend of King Arthur*: part 7. Arthur sentences Guinevere to death. A painstaking version of the legend.
 6.30 pm: *Teachout Info* (see 10.40 pm). When young people make the break and leave home.
 6.40 pm: *Songs of Praise*: from Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno. Marvelous singing guaranteed.
 7.15 pm: *Film: Juggernaut* (1974). Remake of the Indian film *Ekarat*. Strong cast: Richard Harris, Omar Sharif, David Hemmings, Anthony Hopkins (see *Films* on television).
 9.05 pm: *Showbiz*: another story about a West Country radio station crime reporter. Tonight: he exposes a man's double life and the corruptions of a local racketeer.
 9.55 pm: *News*: with Richard Whitemore.
 10.05 pm: *Virtuous Women*: documentary study about Muslim women living in Britain today, and the pressures they have to suffer.
 10.40 pm: *Illusions of Reality*: Men of the Hour: How Chamberlain used to help improve his public image.
 11.05 pm: *The Whale Hunters*: BBC North-East has already seen this film about Whiting and its association with the whaling industry.
 11.30 pm: *Weather* and *Closedown*.

BBC1 VARIATIONS: Scotland: 1.00 pm: *Landward*. 1.25 pm: *Canoe*.
 3.45 pm: *Hockey*, 10.05 pm: *Scots*.
 11.05 pm: *Television Outlook*.
 11.30 pm: *Weather*.
 12.30 pm: *Music*: 1.00 pm: *Scotland*.
 1.30 pm: *Country Music*.
 2.45 pm: *Scots*.
 3.30 pm: *Sports*.
 4.30 pm: *Entertainment*.
 5.30 pm: *Weather*.
 6.00 pm: *News*: with Richard Whitemore.
 6.15 pm: *Review*: with Ned Sherrin and Caryl Brahams (see Personal Choice).
 6.45 pm: *Testament of Youth*: part 3. 6.45 pm: *Woman's Day*: Michael Williams' marvellous adaptation of Vera Brittain's autobiography about the impact of the First World War. Tonight: Vera visits for Roland to come home for Christmas.
 7.00 pm: *International Tennis*: highlights from the men's singles and doubles in the Benson and Hedges Championships played earlier today.
 7.35 pm: *Film: The Hard Part Begins* (1973). Cautionary tale of a country and western singer (Donald Rhodes) who can't get to the top. Closedown at 1.00.

BBC2

11.15 pm: *Open University*, 11.15 The first years of life: the world at one; 11.40 pm: *Energy in the home*; 12.05 pm: *John Ronzio*: music. Close-down at 12.30.

1.55 pm: *International Tennis*: The men's singles final between the Benson and Hedges Championships from New York's Arthur Ashe Tennis Center.
 4.20 pm: *Chronicle: Aphrodite's Other Island*. The island is Melos, where the Venus de Milo was dug up. Narrator in this repeated documentary is René Clément.

5.15 pm: *Rugby Special*: Highlights of yesterday's match between the All Blacks and the Northern Division. 9.15 pm: *Timothy West as Becham*: 1.00 pm: *Cartoons*.

1.15 pm: *Lost Islands*: secret island adventure story for children.
 1.45 pm: *Police 5*: how you can help Scotland Yard.
 2.00 pm: *Crabbages and Kings*: quite fun in the panelists have to race famous words back to their source.
 2.30 pm: *The Big Match*: highlights from three of yesterday's league matches.

6.10 pm: *Review*: with visual commentary for the deaf. Richard Whitemore is the presenter.
 6.45 pm: *Testament of Youth*: part 3. 6.45 pm: *Woman's Day*: Michael Williams' marvellous adaptation of Vera Brittain's autobiography about the impact of the First World War. Tonight: Vera visits for Roland to come home for Christmas.
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5.30 pm: *Quest of Eagles*, episode two of this thriller for children about a Tykeside secret treason once buried in a remote corner of the countryside. Guests include Michael Williams, Vladim Shevyl, Ferdy Mayne.
 6.00 pm: *Sally Ann*: stories about the Salvation Army. Today: the Army helps to find a missing wife.
 6.30 pm: *News*.
 6.40 pm: *Appeal*: David Bellamy appeals on behalf of the Council for the Protection of Rural England.
 6.45 pm: *Sunday*, Sweet Sunday: how the farming Moon family spend their Cornish Sunday.
 7.15 pm: *The Glums*: comedy series based on the classic radio comedy "Tongue-Tied" objects to Ron's and Eth's engagement.
 7.45 pm: *Nice Columbo*: American thriller about a lunatic ventriloquist.
 8.45 pm: *News*.
 9.00 pm: *Bless Me, Father*: comedy with Arthur Lowe as a Roman Catholic priest.
 9.30 pm: *All the Fun of the Fair*: drama, with the fun of about Pauline Collins (see Personal Choice).
 10.00 pm: *Film: The Queen of Ruritania*: Ned Gammie is a TV film about a 16-year-old boy who becomes a drug addict. A true story.
 12.45 pm: *Close*.

London Weekend

9.35 pm: *Little Russell*: one of the popular One Game comedies from the far-off Thirties.
 9.30 pm: *Talking Blues*: David Bohm with another programme about motorcycles.

10.00 pm: *Morning Worship*: Mass from the Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Family, Park North, Swindon.
 11.00 pm: *Getting Out*: an encouraging programme for any OAPs who might feel they have outlived their usefulness.

11.30 pm: *The Monkees*: frantic adventures of a pop music quartet. Very much a time-filler.

12.00 pm: *Wednesday*: Brian Waddington in the first of a new series, analysing Mrs Thatcher's proposals for spending cuts and looks into his wintery crystal ball.
 1.00 pm: *Cartoons*.

1.15 pm: *Lost Islands*: secret island adventure story for children.

1.45 pm: *Police 5*: how you can help Scotland Yard.

2.00 pm: *Crabbages and Kings*: quite fun in the panelists have to race famous words back to their source.

2.30 pm: *The Big Match*: highlights from three of yesterday's league matches.

3.30 pm: *Steve Jones Show*: programme of press work and quick thinking. Contenders include Bryan Hayes, sharp-tongued, insensitive but knowledgeable, phone-in presenters at London Broadcasting.
 4.00 pm: *The South Bank Show*: German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Mrs Barbara Bush. About some of the world's women leaders who studied at the Slade.
 4.30 pm: *Music*: Michael Mayhew Braund about the music of the Fairies.
 5.00 pm: *One Young Twice*, 11.40 pm: *Close*.

Brian Waddington: ITV (12.00)

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4.30 pm: *One Young Twice*, 11.40 pm: *Close*.

Arthur Lowe in Bless Me, Father (ITV, 9.00)

Pat Collins, the showman, was not quite a Barnum or Bailey, but so far as Britain was concerned in the post-war years and up to the late 1950s, he was the next best thing. The son of a tinker, he became undisputed king of the airgrounds and later, mayor of Walsall and a Liberal MP. By all accounts, he was one of the worst speakers the House had ever known, but as a spokesman for the rights of fairground folk, he had no equal. Tonight's musical play, All the Fun of the Fair (ITV, 9.30) is the story of Collins. It was written by Ken Hill, and David Calder, a new name to me, plays Collins.

On Union problems at a musical nature have held up the London production of a new play about Sir Thomas Beecham, with Timothy West as the witty baton-wielder. But all is not lost. Tonight (BBC 2, 9.15) we see Mr West, the erstwhile Churchill, in highlights from the play, Make the Little Beggar's Hop, which was penned by Ned Sherrin and Caryl Brahams.

Not only highlights, but also a discussion between Mr West, his co-star Terry Wogan, and the man who directs the stage play, Patrick Garland.

Bolton City Council, naturally enough, have always opened their books to auditors, but tonight, they open them to the television cameras, too, in The Money Programme (BBC 2, 6.40), John Watkinson, one of the programme's reporters, sits alongside the council's treasurer as he searches the accounts for ways in which he can comply with the Government's demands for cuts in the authority's spending.

In theory, you can have too much of a good thing.

In practice, and certainly in the case of Judi Dench, it is just not true. This outstanding actress can be heard twice on radio today. Daughters of Men, by Jennifer Phillips (BBC 4, 2.30) is a play about a woman whose marriage has broken up and whose daughter is the subject of a case of disputed custody. The play won a 1978 Miss Gielgud award. Then, later tonight (Radio 4, 11.15) Miss Dench and Joss Ackland present a programme of readings in Moonshine... on the River. Music is supplied by the Cambridge City Band.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: + STEREO; * BLACK AND WHITE;

(REPEAT).

Joyce 10150

TELEVISION

5.30 pm: *The Basil Brush Show*: more fun with the assertive for. The *Brave* (The Way Ahead) (r).
 6.00 pm: *Multi-Coloured Swap Shop*: the all-purpose entertainment phone-in and exchange-gifts programme for young viewers. *Breast* (compered by Noel Edmunds). *World's fastest runner* Sebastian Coe is a guest.
 12.12 pm: *Weather*.
 12.15 pm: *Games*: tennis, including football final; racing at Ascot at 12.50, 1.25, 1.55 and 2.30; International Squash at 1.10 and 1.45; International Tennis (the Benson and Hedges Championships) at 2.50 and 4.45; Rugby (Ascot) at 2.50, Final Score at 4.40.
 5.05 pm: *Who Killed Who?* (cartoon).
 5.15 pm: *News*: with Richard Whitemore.

BBC2

12.05 pm: *Open University* (Consumer Protection on the heat) (see Personal Choice).
 2.15 pm: *Lake*: first British TV screening of a full-length submitted cowboy story about a gentle sheriff.
 3.30 pm: *Play Away*: songs-and-comedy show for children. The jokes are mostly venerable, but the pace is good, and the young studio audience look satisfied.
 3.55 pm: *Film: Texas Carnival*: I agree with David Robinson's general conclusions (see *Films* on TV) but I must put in a good word for Ann Miller's dancing.

London Weekend

5.05 pm: *Horizon*: A Treasury of Trees. Review of last Monday's *Horizon* (see Personal Choice).
 5.30 pm: *Scoreboard*: 3.20 Hockey, 3.30 European Football, 3.40 Sparscore, 3.45 Snooker, 3.50 Pool, 3.55 Billiards, 3.58 Snooker,

Records of the year: opera

GERMAN

Lulu complete: the event of a generation

Berg

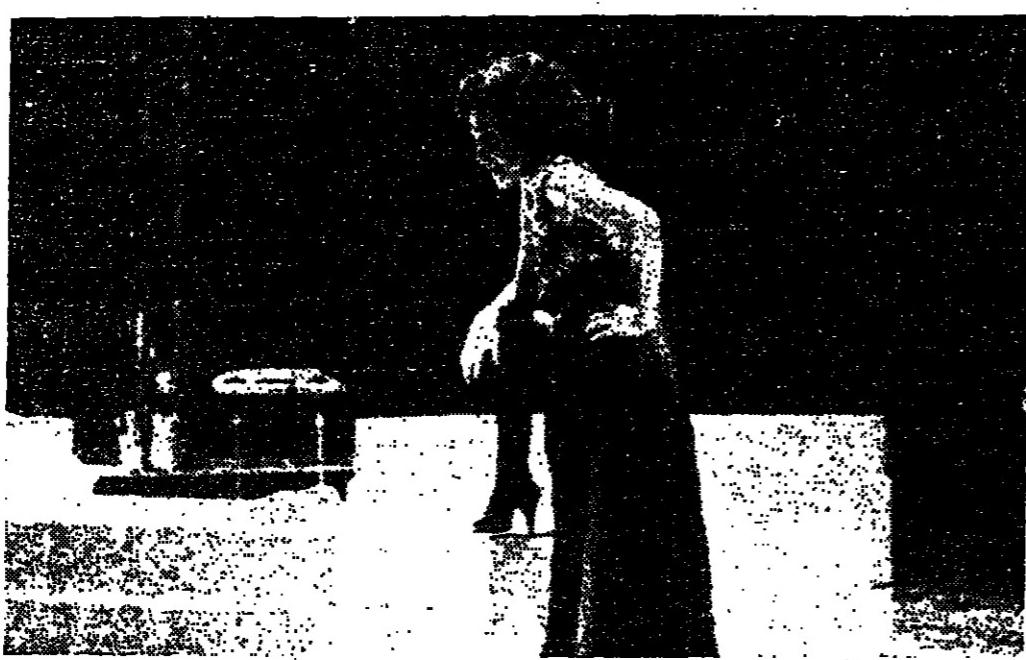
Lulu

D G 2740 213.
4 discs, £18.50
The premiere, at the Paris Opera in February, of *Lulu* complete with its third act, as re-visited by Friedrich Cerha, was arguably the most important in operatic annals during the past 30 years. With commendable promptitude DG obtained recording rights and took that cast, some minor changes excepted, with the Opera Orchestra and Pierre Boulez into the IRCAM studio between stage performances. The resultant seven sides (the eighth disappointingly occupied by spoken rehearsals in three languages) find them all in form, voices balanced with ideal clarity against orchestra, musical detail and words (less than ideal German) marvellously appreciable. Teresa Stratas in the name-part, Kenneth Riegel, Franz Mazura, Toni Blankenheim, Jules Bastin and our own Yvonne Minton, Jane Manning and Robert Tear all contribute strongly. At last we can appreciate the dramatic dimensions, the total impact of Berg's scrupulously calculated masterpiece to the full.

Humperdinck

Hansel und Gretel

CBS 79321.
2 discs, £7.99 until Jan 1.
The "nursery Meistersinger", as some have called it, is detectable only in the recorded performance fit to rival the EMI Karajan one which still exerts potent charm after 25 years. CBS assembled the strongest imaginable cast from today's most lovable singers, the title roles exquisitely differentiated by Frederica von Stade and Ileana Cotrubas, with Elisabeth Söderström a Witch of inspired, horrible glee and musical insight. Christa Ludwig a monument of overwork and frustration as the Mother, Kiri Te Kanawa and Ruth Welting in tiny parts, the jolly Father of Siegmund Nimschen, with John Pritchard leading his



Teresa Stratas as Lulu at the Paris Opera

Cologne Opera and able choral ensemble's choir. The CBS production abounds in atmosphere and relish. If the new performance does not (could not) surpass Karajan's, it is as irreducible in a different way, and merits attention even by those who will never part with the EMI one. Cologne's orchestral rhythms and textures sometimes sound laboured, by comparison, Schwarzkopf and her EMI colleagues less natural in their expression; the comparisons can go on for ever, instructive but not odious.

Reimann

*Lear*DG 2709 087.
3 discs, £15.17

Many composers have tried to set Shakespeare's King Lear as an opera; Albrecht Reimann, persuaded by his occasional recital partner Fischer-Dieskau, succeeded. I wrote at length about his loyal, darkly glowing, splendidly barbaric *Lear* after last year's Munich Festival. DG has spliced together a recording

from live performances there, and it makes even more impressive listening. The essence of Shakespeare's tragedy is here, the principal characters vividly defined, fearsome or moving in their interaction—not only Fischer-Dieskau's Lear, the greatest operatic impersonation of his great career, but Julia Varady's Cordelia, Helga Dernesch and Colette Lorand diversely venomous as the other daughters, David Knaus dauntless in Mad Tom's dizzy tenoristic floritura, all under Gerd Albrecht's sympathetic baton. Reimann's music seems even finer, apt, inventive, gradually coloured, perfectly modern yet positively alluring in evocation, and the recorded production is of demonstrable quality.

Strauss

*Die aegyptische Helena*Decca D176D13.
3 discs, £15.75

This has been a fairly prolific year for Strauss opera on record—the composer died just 30 years ago. For serious collectors this and *Die schweigsame Frau* will be the most desirable.

Ariadne auf Naxos since they are first recordings. The *Egyptian Helen* is conducted by Anat Dorati who, 51 years ago, coached the Dresden cast before the première and went on to conduct the one disc; this he has achieved with his Detroit Orchestra and with a personal enthusiasm for the score, its tough blocks of harmony, its passionate vocal writing, its exotic colours and deft scherzando music, that deserves to make converts to the work.

Gwyneth Jones's Helena is radiantly lovely, occasionally effortful, Barbara Hendrick's Althra quite brilliant, Willard White's Altair secure and virile even in his high-flying baritone music. The Menelaus of Matti Kuuslu at first sounds thick and imprecise, though strong enough; before the end his singing has become more gratifying and his portrayal convincing. The opera is given credit in its first version, the recorded sound varies in range, the acoustic curiously diverse—perhaps to differentiate indoor from outdoor scenes.

*Ariadne auf Naxos*Decca D103D3.
3 discs, £13.50
The new Decca *Ariadne*, under

Solti and recorded in London was clearly planned with love and forethought. The cast is led by Leonore Price and René Kollo (neither entirely free from vocal strain) as Bacchus and Ariadne, supported to the full by Gruberova's delectable Zerbinetta, with Troyanos touching and Ardent as the Composer in the Prologue, many others notably, including Erich Kunz as a splendid Major-domo (he was Harlequin in the first recording 25 years ago). The LPO is in elegant, sparkling form, and care has been taken to correct the tailings of the several earlier recordings of *Ariadne*, all of them desirably in some respect. It is a clear first recording, and a handsome alternative to either Karajan/Columbia or Kempff/HMV.

*Elektra*DG 2721 187.
2 discs, £7.55

DG's *Elektra*, conducted by Böhm and released almost 20 years later to mark his eighty-fifth birthday, is heavily cut and balanced too much in favour of singers (like the *Stolen Woman*, it comes from Dresden); nor Fischer-Dieskau apart, do I enjoy the principals as much as those in the Soldi/Decca version of a few years after. But there is much to admire, as is usual when Böhm is at the helm, and the box is favourably priced.

*Die schweigsame Frau*HMV SLS 5160.
3 discs, £13.10

Die schweigsame Frau (seen at Glyndebourne this summer) was recorded in Dresden where it too was first staged. Marek Janowski, the conductor, wakes much of the music's twinkling grace and fleetness, balancing voices and orchestra with real skill. The principal singers are not flawless, the recorded sound muffles the orchestra and favours the voices; yet also Adam's bluff, eager *Moscou* and Jeanine Savary's "silent woman" offer more of virtue than of shortcoming, and one puts the box away, as one left Glyndebourne, enriched and elated.

*Ariadne auf Naxos*Decca D103D3.
3 discs, £13.50
The new Decca *Ariadne*, under

William Mann

Pavarotti and the National Philharmonic are the only ones to make connecting links in this coupling of the "inseparables". The tenor is scarcely restrained in either opera, but the results are exciting, particularly when he is up against Julia Varady's aggrieved and aggressive Santuzza in *Cav.* We should hear much more of the Hungarian soprano in *permiso* opera. By contrast, Mirella Freni's Nedda is a shade pale. Both the Decca conductors, Gavazzeni and Patane, are easily outclassed by Karajan on the 1966 DG set which has recently been reissued.*Fidelio*Decca D63D3.
3 discs, £13.50

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*Fidelio*Decca D130D3.
3 discs, £15.75

Fidelio in Italian! The libretto set by Paez is almost word for word that given to Beethoven when they had a common source in what Beethoven wrote in French for Gaveaux (perhaps this will one day be recorded commercially—though without some of the great moments that we treasure in *Fidelio*). Paez's version antecedes Beethoven's by a year: he saw the Vienna premiere after his own first recension had been staged, but before the third revision nowadays familiar. There are some thematic and textural similarities, some harmonies too that Beethoven surely borrowed, and not only for his final version. The differences between the Paez and Beethoven are quite fascinating, and this set must keenly recommend itself as all devotees of *Fidelio*.

Mozart

Don Giovanni

Decca D162D4.
4 discs, £21.00

CBS Masterworks 79321.
3 discs, £12.49 until January 1

William Mann

Two new *Giovanni* came hot on one another's heels in the autumn. CBS wins easily on price and has a fiery, virile protagonist... In Ruggert Kaimondi, but the rest of the cast with the exception of Kurt Te Kanawa's Elvira is not impressive. Jose van Dam's Leporello has too much of his master's voice, which is fine on stage or on film in this case, but a positive disadvantage on record. And therein lies the trouble. CBS's *Giovanni* is the product of Joseph Losey's film of Mozart's opera, which was promised for this month's London Film Festival but so far has been seen only in New York. The transfer to disc has not been well done.

*Ottavio*Decca D162D4.
4 discs, £21.00

The music is more florid than Beethoven's, sometimes tending to show off and their colleagues, and it has interleaved recitations instead of Beethoven's spoken dialogue.

*Verdi*Decca D162D4.
4 discs, £21.00

Massaghi and the National Philharmonic make a good team—though the cast is not as good as in the Paez version. The music is more florid than Beethoven's, sometimes tending to show off and their colleagues, and it has interleaved recitations instead of Beethoven's spoken dialogue.

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Records of the year: concert music

CHESTRAL

arenboim's rare service for Schumann

onal music has always been the great bulk of the LP market, and it is to mention all the worth new releases of the past months I should go far beyond the limits of space or reader's reasonable time. So, picking my way through the scattered slippery offer a selection party by taste and by the march of time.

My choices are from more recent issues, though we included some stars of the past. First, a little music from earlier in the year, looking backwards through a concert I began with Schumann and with two sets, both recorded with Chicago Symphony. Sir Georg Solti's Brahms cycle (DG 151104, 4 discs, £18.50) fulfills the promise of dark and brooding view of fourth symphony, which was rarely issued last year, and set the pattern of power concentration and full rich sound.

Yehudi Menuhin's Daniel Barenboim's achievement with Schumann symphonies (DG 174, 3 discs, £17.10) is the best for these works I have had to be less lucky in their recordings. I commend Barenboim's performances in them came out on individual discs, and I am not used to desert them for rivals.

The latter is a new vinyl of the Spring Symphony from Riccardo Muti and Philharmonia (EMI ASD 1, £2.40). Much of the play is as sonorous and appealing as the Concerto heaster, but Mu's forceful obscures the fresh dash of ing, even at these brisk tempos. The coupling is Mansolm's Refrainment Symphony, which is better controlled. Indeed, Muti comes making this hot-potch of gious sentiment and Beethovenian symphonism attractive. It is also worth considering a performance from Bernard Bernstein and the Tel Aviv Philharmonic (DG 2531, £5.06), where the electric pairing is with Mensohn's Italian Symphony.

The Israel Philharmonic is in to be heard, and heard in the full bite of digital and, in Mahler's fourth symphony under Zubin Mehta (EMI SXL 7501, £5.25), other two performances of his work also arrive for comparison from Andre Previn and the Pittsburgh Symphony (MVD 1785, £5.40), and in the Berlin Philharmonic der Karajan (DG 2531 205, £5.06), which suggests a generalizing that Mahler's sunniest symphony has some burning levity. In the present Little of his, however, verges in any of these recordings. The excitement of Mehta and Previn seem forced, while Karajan strives perversely to budge anything bizarre, temperate, or ironic in the score. Thus some of the most characteristically Mahlerian



Barenboim recording Schumann in Chicago

and remarkable feeling for orchestral blend can receive undivided attention in his Dukas programme with the Royal Philharmonic (Philips 5500 533, £5.45).

Another violin specialist is offered by Kyung-Wha Chung, who follows Chamber's Peacock with bowings by Saint-Saëns and Ravel, all accompanied by Charles Dutoit (Decca SXL 5851, £5.25). Chung is incapable of relying merely on elegance, even in such a charming piece of nonsense as Saint-Saëns' Introduction and Ronde Capriccioso. Everything has to be given a full measure of expression, though this is applied with such resourcefulness that the music never gets clogged. Needless to say, Chung's ability to be both romantic and agile is particularly helpful in the Chausson, where she marvelously matches timeness to tension.

More acerbic tastes will be better satisfied by the pungent and vital performances of Bartók's first two piano concertos recorded by Maurizio Pollini with the Chicago Symphony under Claudio Abbado (DG 2530 301, £5.06). High-pressure energy and joy abound, with passion made objective by the precision of the soloist and the impatience of the rhythms and tones of the orchestra. I have always found the bright counterpart of the second concerto more welcoming than the tangled growths of the first, but here the earlier work is revealed to view as never before, though with a paradoxical gain in mystery and malevolence.

Remaining in the twentieth century for the first of my miscellany, I come to Pierre

Russian, again from the world of ballet, but now to be recommended without reservation.

SONG

Baker renewed

Malvav Rosopovich converts the Berlin Philharmonic into the perfect theatre orchestra for his recordings of suites from Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake and Sleeping Beauty (DG 2531 111, £5.06). There is a companion album offering the Nutcracker suite with the Capriccio italiano and the Andante cantabile for cello and strings (DG 2531 112, £5.06), but the Swan Lake and Sleeping Beauty excerpts have the edge in lustrous magic and grand excitement. The perfect Christmas present, if you can wait that long. Though, come to think of it, Times readers have had practice in delayed gratification.

Paul Griffiths

EMI has done handsomely by the centenary of Sir Thomas Beecham's birth. The most imposing tribute has been an enormous box (SHE 100, World Records, £24.95) containing eight discs and Alan Jefferson's full and fascinating new biography. The box's title, *A Musical Biography*, will warn the unwary that many of the performances took place long ago, under more or less primitive recording conditions, though the transfers have been cleverly negotiated. The repertory is divided into characteristic even to Beecham's eccentricities, including such rarities as the bridle, toy fare for L'Été de Jeune, the exotic early overture *Shéhérazade* and the sea picture *Une Barque sur l'Océan*. The set also has the perfect guide in Boddy, who has the capacity to make everything work precisely in such crafty scores as *Ma mère l'oye* or *Le tombeau de Couperin*, and to bring floods of perhaps ironic schmaltz to *Daphnis et Le Capriccioso*. Everything has to be given a full measure of expression, though this is applied with such resourcefulness that the music never gets clogged. Needless to say, Chung's ability to be both romantic and agile is particularly helpful in the Chausson, where she marvelously matches timeness to tension.

Another modern master, Stravinsky, has been well served by a sumptuous recording of The Firebird from Colin Davis and the Concertgebouw (Philips 9500 637, £5.45) and by Yury Temirkanov's account of Petrushka with the Leningrad Symphony (EMV Melodiya ASD 3705, £5.45). The latter is not well recorded; it is apart from anything else, it is preceeded by Ravel's second *Allegro* suite, so that the clamorous "Russian Dance" is crammed uncomfortably into the centre groove. However, we do not have many opportunities to hear Stravinsky played by Russians and the result is fascinating, even if they do get smudged in the more complex ensembles, exaggerate rallentando and use the wrong edition. What they can provide, and it is well worth sampling, is what Stravinsky himself said was in the final scene: "the smells of Russian food—shchi—and of sweat and glistening leather boots".

I end with something again Russian, again from the world of ballet, but now to be recommended without reservation.

William Mann

Janet Baker voice? If my personal mannerisms were imitated by every aspiring mezzo, and if I had her vocal technique, I too would seek to extend the available sounds in my voice. Dame Janet does so, for the first time, in a record of Italian classic arias (EMI 557, £5.45), such as are studied by Neville Marriner and the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields. The arrangements by Simon Preston often regrettably lush and unsatisfactory, unlike the singing, which shows a new lightness and volubility, in *Caccini's "Amorilli"* even a successful assault into the timbre of a superb counter-tenor (there were hints of it in the last revival of Idomeneo at Covent Garden).

For much of this recital Dame Janet sings as her customary self, rather stretching her artistry in point of interpretation. The 18 items, including many favourites (such as "Caro mio ben", "Danza, danza", "Nel cor più", and "Flirr' flirr'"), have all something illustrating the more familiar music. If only she hadn't accepted these sugary accompaniments—but many readers may find them positively endearing, skilfully engineered as they are.

The Art of Tito Gobbi (EMI RLS 738, £5.50), a box of three records, was issued to coincide with the publication of Gobbi's autobiography. It consists of early sides made in Italy during the war, then some recorded in London between 1948 and 1952, all operatic excerpts. Next come two sides of modern Italian ballads, recorded between 1948 and 1953. The period of Gobbi's musical films, finally nine hitherto unpublished operatic items from 1955 and nine Italian ballads with Gerald Moore as pianist. The set impressively demonstrates the versatility of Gobbi's voice and artistry, though his musicianship is heard to be rather more impudent in the earliest sides, and more impudent, more intent on a telling sound. Every student of vocal art will learn greatly from these discs.

Among the many other Beecham reissues for this year, I would specially mention Ravel's overtures (mono, SXL 533, £2.25), which are simply exemplary: the box including pre-war versions of Tchaikovsky's fifth, Schubert's Unfinished symphonies (RLS 733, three discs, £9.95); the fascinating 1930s Don Quixote with the New York Philharmonic and Alfred Wallenstein as *callist* (HLM 7154, £2.85); Sibelius' seventh with *Tapiola* and *The Oceanides* (SXL 3029, £3.05); and the closing scene of Strauss' *Elektra* (with Schiffrer, Weilisch and Schöffler) coupled with the start and finish of *Ariadne auf Naxos* (chiefly for Cebotari's *Ariadne*) (RCA RL 4282, £3.50). There is much else, if one searches the catalogues.

William Mann

Elisabeth Söderström has produced two fine recital records this year, both with Vladimir Ashkenazy as her perceptive and sympathetic pianist. Their Rachmaninov series is completed with Volume IV (Decca SXL 6869, £4.50), including four songs without opus number, the opus 26 set one of which is a duet (with the admirable John Shirley-Quirk) and two subsequent songs. Söderström again shows extraordinary affinities with both music and poetry, and her limpid soprano is gratifyingly captured in a favourable acoustic, as also in a record of songs about and for children (Decca SXL 6900, £4.50).

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William Mann

Accolade. Because a few classic performances will live forever.

Every once in a while a classical performance reaches a standard that might never be surpassed. They are rare, and Deutsche Grammophon has introduced a new label to preserve interpretations like these.

The new label is Accolade. The great performances include classics like Karl Böhm's definitive interpretations of Mozart symphonies,

the Brahms symphonies by Claudio Abbado, and of course the world famous Herbert von Karajan conducting the Berlin Philharmonic.

The Karajan performances feature interpretations of Ravel, Sibelius, Debussy, plus his recordings of the nine symphonies of Beethoven that

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William Mann

Bridge

Learning to count

One of my oldest readers who was weary of the growing number of conventions suddenly decided that he would enjoy his game far more if he abandoned almost every conventional aid. He was gratified at discovering that, so far from being at a disadvantage, he more than held his own. He continued to employ the artificial Four Clubs for a check on aces and kings together with the Take-out Double when it was appropriate, and he graphically likened his fresh approach to the emergence of a boat which had been choked by water-weeds into a wide and limpid lake.

Four months later a novice rightly challenged my advice to adopt free enterprise in the auction, explaining how difficult he found defensive play when his partner's bids varied between 11 and 19 points. He quoted from a recent elementary text book entitled *The Art of Card Reading at Bridge* by a distinguished American teacher named Fred L. Karpin, and I was compelled to agree that a winning player must master all the fundamental rules that were devised to assist duplicate players before he can afford to abandon them in favour of a more elastic system. This means that everyone benefits at the start of his bridge career by learning, and using, the very conventions which make him an easy opponent.

Karpin is not the first teacher to explain how a player becomes competent in both attack and defence through a combination of book-knowledge, judgment, and imagination; but his examples were well-chosen to put a beginner on the right road. I am quoting one of Karpin's details because it illustrates so clearly why the novice will play his best only if his partner uses standard opening leads. Otherwise, he cannot decide whether to open up a new suit.

North South game; dealer South:

South made a novice's typical mistake (and it is not only a beginner who bids Three No trumps) in ascribing insufficient value to his doubleton spade and refusing to give the invited suit-preference. If South responded Three Spades and North bid game, East might think the confusion that he could successfully defend the contract; but North's position is impregnable. Even if the declarer cannot make the most of his spades after an initial trump lead, he finds no problem in making 10 tricks, shortening his trumps by ruffing and later securing the lead up to his AJ.

West gave away the game in No trumps by leading his fourth-highest diamond. After dummy's ♦10 held the trick, North led a spade to the trick successfully finessed against the ♦Q and led the ♦Q. West could not afford to refuse the trick and had no better return than the ♦Q. After winning with the ♦K and putting East on play with a spade, South took five more tricks with the simplest of end-plays.

Despite sound teaching on both sides of the Atlantic, a novice obtains the best clue to defence when he grasps that the fourth highest is really a compromise between active and passive openings.

Edward Mayer

Records of the year: music before 1800

Early vocal

Probably the most distinguished of our early vocal chamber music ensembles—though it is rarely to be heard in Britain—is Pro Cantione Antiqua, which celebrated its tenth anniversary in September. Among its recent Archive discs is a coupling (2533 404, £5.06) of two fifteenth-century composers: Bawyn, represented by a group of motets, rather angular in line but using the bold sixth-chord style, English in origin, much of the time, and the slightly later, more lyrical Busnois (*Mass l'hamme armé*). The singing avoids blend, quite properly, in favour of distinctness and clarity of line. In quite a different style are the group's performances on a pair of records from Oxford University Press (OUP 151-2, £3.50), giving a selection of English madrigals, familiar and unfamiliar, in beautifully polished and polished fashion under Philip Ledger, in self-conscious stylisation here, but rather an intentness on conveying the freshness and the range of character of the music.

The Dowland series from L'Oiseau-Lyre continues. The disc of Lamentations, Psalm settings and sacred songs (DSL 0551, £5.25) contrasts sharply with the madrigal set above by dint of the Consort of Musicks' more rigorously authentic approach: but the music, consistently inward and melancholy, anyway calls for a manner more restrained. The simplicity and elegant directness are not very moving. Perhaps a little less computerised, an acquisition for the Dowland aficionado is DSL 0552, a miscellany containing arrangements of his music, some of them decidedly improbable and oddly fascinating, played by the Consort of Musicks; but DSL 0552, on which Colja Tilney plays on the harpsichord other men's arrangements of Dowland pieces with a resourceful rhythmic imagination and a keen, almost sensuous feeling for the instrument's sound, makes good listening although at best marginal to the series.

Early-mid Baroque

I confess to mixed enthusiasm, at best, for modern brass instruments in baroque music. But there is entertainment to be had from the Philip Jones Brass Ensemble disc (Argo ZRG 898, £5.25); from the sonatas, mainly

by German, on the first side—mostly sombre, and by Speer, but including one delicious piece by Anon—and from the arrangements on the second; though when it comes to Scarlatti sonatas on brass the surprise lies not in how well it is done but in its being done at all. The argument for modern brass used to be that it could play better in tune. But a record of Giovanni Gabrieli from the London Cornetti and Sackbut Ensemble under Andrew Parrott (Archive 2533 406, £5.06) actually falls more sweetly off the ear in this respect than the Argo.

Admittedly it is augmented by strings, to enlarge the tonal palette and enhance the contrasts of colour in this antiphonal music. There is no attempt here to offer a musical equivalent of the magnificence of St Mark's (for which some of it may have been composed); rather the emphasis on refinement of phrasing and subtle contrasts of sonority, and it puts the music in a new and much more interesting light. I warmly recommend this fascinating, finely recorded disc.

Handel & Bach

It has been a fruitful autumn for Handel opera records: three works not hitherto available in the catalogues, *Serse*, *Admeto* and *Partenope*, have lately appeared. Of them, *Partenope* (*Harmonia Mundi* IC 157 9955-8, £15.20) I recommend with particular enthusiasm. This is one of the lighter-hearted of Handel's operas, dealing with love and its quirks with a touch of ironic humour that, musically manifests itself in the airy textures, the predominantly quick tempos and a general vivacity. On these records it is conducted by the Belgian early music specialist Sigiswald Kuijken, who draws from La Petite Bande playing of a real vitality and sparkle, supported by firm and shapely bass lines—the whole has a sense of direction that all too often eludes practitioners of authentic instruments, occupied, as they are apt to be, with points of detail.

There are some excellent

singers: Krisztina Laki, an agile soprano, with a happy glint to her voice, as *Parthenope*; Helga Müller Molinari, who sings the alto role of Rosmira with passion and precision; and three English artists, John York Skinner, whose firm counter-

tenor serves well for Arminius, Mardonius, and Stephen Varney. I am not, however, sure about the *Arsaces*. René Jacobs' whose countertenor singing is rather affected; but as a whole the set is the best I have yet heard of a Handel opera.

The *Admeto* is worth trying, too. This is a more heroic, indeed altogether grander, opera than *Partenope*, and the small-orchestra approach is less successful; moreover the direction, by Alan Curtis, though carefully detailed, does little to bring out the character of the individual numbers. There is however sensible ornamentation here, which the *Partenope* set lacks. Vocally it is less successful: Jill Gomez does well in the light and graceful music for Antigona, but Rachel Yaker does not sing cleanly enough in Alceste's music, and René Jacobs swoops a great deal as Admetus. James Bowman, Michael van Egmond, Ulrich Cold and Rita Dams complete the cast (EMI Import IC 162 30 808/12Q, £25.30).

I cannot be very enthusiastic about the *Serse* set (CBS 75325, £12.45). Again a contemporary style is attempted, but Jean-Claude Malgoire is not a persuasive Handelian

with his heavy accents and swellings, his liberties over tempo and his dubious taste that permits such gross treatment of the light comic elements in the score. These are good voices in the cast (Carolyn Watkinson, Ouran Winkel, Anne-Marie Rodde, Barbara Hendricks, Paul Esswood); but anyone wanting *Serse* will do better to seek out a copy of the old American Westminster recording, which I understand can be obtained from specialist dealers.

Among recent Bach recordings I should draw attention, seasonally, to the new Archive *Christmas Oratorio* (2710 024, 3 discs, £15.17). This comes from Regensburg (the Dumppazien and the Collegium St Emmeram) and is what might be reckoned middle-of-the-road "authentic"; historical instruments are used but I fancy less rigorously than sometimes. The result is a performance not far from the conventional in sound, but clear and small in scale; and Hanns-Martin Schmidt conducts unaffectedly. There is an intelligent and lyrical tenor, Rein Hopfner, a sound bass in Niklaus Hillebrand, and there are musical boys from the choir in the soprano and alto solos.

The Rococo era

Moving on to Bach's sons, a warm recommendation for the Academy of Ancient Music records of CPE's string symphonies (*L'Oiseau-Lyre* DSLO 557-8, £10.50), played with enormous fire under Christopher Hogwood, and greatly benefiting from the clean string sound and the incisive articulation of these authentic strings. A recommendation, too, though more guarded, for the two records from Philips (5747 439, £6.95), contrasting J. C. Bach's symphonies from Nos 6 and 9: much attractive music here, but the performances by the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra under David Zinman, though zestful, are often too speedy to do full justice to its weight or its expression.

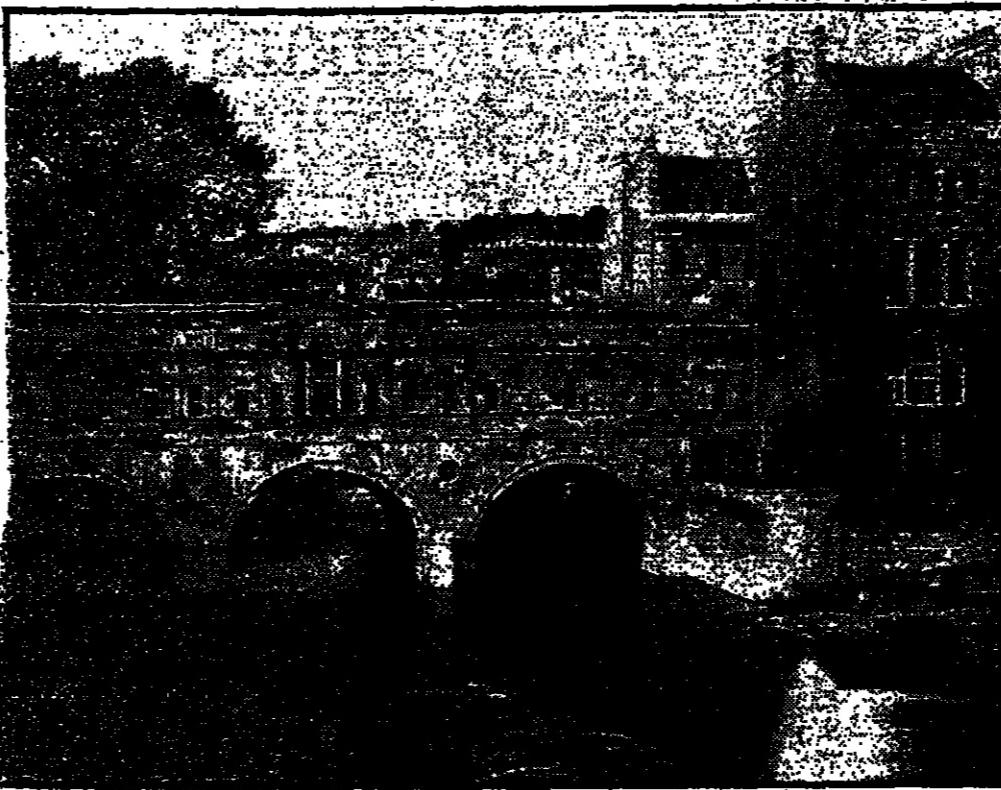
Also from Philips comes a curiosity: a set of 12 concertos arranged by the Newcastle composer Charles Avison from Scarlatti harpsichord sonatas (6769 018, £12.79). It is fascinating to hear keyboard virtuosity translated into string performance; and again the St Martin's Academy under Neville Marriner makes the most of it. Another set of concertos that left me dizzied is the dozen for violin by the Italianate Frenchman Jean-Marie Leclair: these, among the most testing violin music of their day, and full of original turns of phrase, are played with real brilliance by Gérard Jarry of the Royal Chamber Orchestra (EMI 5104, £12.79). This is a set of 12, and the soloist is the most commanding violinist in KMS, where she fails to rise to the nobility of the LPO's playing under Solzi of the orchestral music, at least until the finale. This approach works rather better in the softer-toned music of KMS; but there is some want of vitality and of a properly integrated soloist-orchestra relationship about the whole.

Finally, let us we should regard the Viennese as the only true classicists, let me draw attention to a remarkable pair of records of symphonies by Clementi (RCA Eroto 5174, £9.95), works which at their best show the vivacity of Haydn and the developmental energy and high seriousness of Beethoven, and besides are run through with imaginative orchestration and contrapuntal ingenuity. The occasional dalli-moments, found mostly in the slow movements, are offset by many fascinating ideas and the consistently polished composition. These four substantial works are finely played by the ploddingians under Claudio Seimone.

Stanley Sadie

Good Food Guide

Breaking the fast



Anyone who has gone abroad for a year knows what it is like to return. Old landmarks have become holes in the ground, half the people you telephone have changed their spouses or addresses, and the children of friends have suddenly become independent young men and women.

Why is the diamond return not a guess? Because if West had four spades only, and they were ♦KQ103, would have opened the ♦AK? When East returned the spade "quick as a flash" without bothering to check the honours in the bidding hands, South took 10 tricks after establishing club entry to dummy and finessing against the ♣K.

East's problem was most elementary because he must automatically register a minimum of 20 to 22 points in the declarer's hand; since South did not raise to Four Hearts, he was likely to be short in that suit and have length elsewhere.

Despite Karpin's experience and the excellence of his example, I must disagree with him in assuming that all players except those in the top class can be relied upon to have made standard leads. Except in one instance he makes no attempt to illustrate defence in the case of misfitting hands, when the defenders have an advantage over declarer through their ability to control broken suits.

An example from a rubber between inexperienced players shows every kind of problem in bidding and play.

No score; dealer South:

Maby better than it did. Mr Price: "I like the place better now, on the strength of the 'quenelles'—terrains d'école—visées and volants—aux ris de voleur—qui doivent avoir été servis à la Couronne".

Mr Price: "I even paid cash instead of by credit card. I was so pleased—an interesting nuance, this, in the perpetual courtship dance between caterer and customer in the matter of the reckoning."

A further advantage of cash payment is that more than just the bottom line of the bill is likely to be scrutinised: obviously, too many customers in restaurants where the service percentage is left to the customer are spoiling the market for their fellow tipplers by tipping their 10-15 per cent on a sum that already includes 15 per cent VAT, instead of on the restaurant's own basic charges for food and drink consumed.

Still off in the southwest, two younger staffs of the hotel are likely to be scrutinised: one note, not least on value-for-money grounds. Good value has long been associated with Mr and Mrs Hugh Neil's well-known hotel at Chittlehampton in Devon. Their daughter Colette has now opened her own restaurant, Stumbles, in what she describes as "a small market town coming up in the world". South Molton is the same county. She hopes to expand it eventually into a small hotel, an urge that is obviously in the blood. It is very early days yet, but two autumn travellers have already written in praise of Miss Neil's lunchtime stuffed pancakes and fresh, well-dressed salads. In the evening more elaborate dishes are offered: hot crab puffs (£1.15), stuffed joints of chicken with sherry cream sauce (£2.95) and apricot and flan (£9.50).

In Somerset, South Petherton already has an Oaklands one of the country's best eating (and drinking) places, and the Chapmans now—wondered where their next square meal was coming from, but it is still possible for a restaurateur to hold a few cards in his sleeve. No wonder failures, when they occur, areounding—"a cloud of harmonies inaccurately rendered," says someone of his dish called "blanc et noir", and its accompanying vegetables. Another customer felt he should have been warned that his supreme of chicken was going to arrive, like Cleopatra, in an ornate and gilded barge of pastry, floating on a sea of white grapes.

But up and down the land, as almost every meal eaten is putatively scrutinised, a sense of proportion is the last quality which the British diner expects—or receives in restaurants at his £10 or £20 a head. In this respect country places are if anything worse offenders than London ones, in spite or because of the time and pains they take. Over 30 years have passed since the moneyed classes last counted their coupons and wondered where their next square meal was coming from, but it is still possible for a restaurateur to hold a few cards in his sleeve.

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Clive Barnes/New York Notebook

A Broadway clogged with hits

last season, you will be gratified to learn, Broadway party-oped by ever-escalating ticket prices, made more money than ever before. But enough of the—it may to a large extent explain the sluggish start have had to this year's New York theatrical season. Many of the best theatres are gagged up—if that is not too charitable a word—with existing hits and Broadway's evident sense of euphoric licence possibly makes it even more unwilling than usual to experiment.

Traditionally the theatrical season is as clearly defined as a start of grouse shooting, theatre, pristine new and sunny-hopeful, opens for business on Labour Day, the first Monday in September. Of late the tradition, like many, has been flouted here, where—particularly here—but a principle remains sound: in September, however, virtually nothing happened except a revival of the musical Peter Pan, with Sandy Duncan filling her heart out as Peter while asking several rows of businessmen and their consorts whether they believed in fairies. In the present economic answer is probably sounding "Yes".

It will not have escaped notice that Peter Pan is what is known in the trade as a "revival". And indeed this season looks suspiciously like talk along Broadway's line to end a scroll down memory lane rather than Schubert alley; his season even limp musical revivals are comparatively rare.

Apart from the aforementioned Peter Pan, we have already had an operatic style—with Giorgio Tozzi no less—version of Frank Loesser's *The Most Happy Fella*, which is now ready on just about the eve of departure—a case, one might say, of "Bye-bye, Tozzi, bye-bye". But there is plenty

more where these came from: *Oklahoma!*—where the crop grows as high as an elephant's eye, however high that is—warming up in the wings of Washington, *West Side Story* is re-sharpening its sick-knives, and the *Magic Man* is gathering together his 76 trombones. Later, in the summer, possibly to coincide with some kind of presidential election, we are promised *Cameo*, with Richard Burton—the Richard Burton.

Does it make you feel nostalgic? There is even more to come, for even new musicals are nostalgic in along the old ones. For example we have something called *The 1940's Radio Hour*, which purports to be a reconstruction, complete with big-band music of the period and a big-band itself up there on stage of a forties band show. *Middleaged* devotees of the war-time American Forces Network—she, kind of person to whom Van Schleicher's *Goodbye, Darkness* is historically Preussian in its associations of times past—will doubtless remember the *Kyber Show*.

And not only is radio back—but so is que. When was last time? Someone once described it rather naughtily as a hair on the G-string, but it was always much more than partial nudity, fan dances and tabloids-once-or-less-revived. The comedians—top bananas and second bananas alike—played a vital part in proceedings that could, should they be so disposed, find their roots in Plautus, the *Commedia del Arte* and Fred Karno.

Currently New York has two tributes to burlesque on the boards. *One Big Bad Burlesque*, off-Broadway, supervised by veteran stripper Anne Corio, and in its raunchy tacky way, is probably more authentic than the wild and giddy Broadway version, *Sugar Babies*. This has ritzy, glitzy, and Brechtian, particularly in

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Nevertheless, *Sugar Babies*, is justified a palpable hit, has Aziz Miller's legs, feet, and ripples, for which, I swear, time has stood still for all six above the waist: a certain strain seen in, but here the waist is a long way up so you hardly notice, particularly if you are Mickey Rooney. And Rooney, in his belated Broadway debut, has struck it rich. He is a gorgeous comedian, one of the funniest men on earth. After years of associating him with little more than marriage, alimony and Andy Hardy's retarded adolescence, it comes as a shock to see what a consummate comedian he is in his thirties. He reminds me of the long-lost Sid Field, in his gusto of Rod Steiger, in his madness of Harpo Marx, and it all comes out today.

The oddball big musical of the season so far, has been *Evita*. This, especially not having been critically well received in New York as in London, New York tending to look at the dog beneath the skin, or the bitch beneath the scenery. We New Yorkers are very political, especially when the politics concern other cultures, such as New Jersey or Argentina.

Don't cry for anyone, particularly Hal Prince. *Evita* will run, partly because it is so interesting and innovative in terms of the theatre. It is undoubtedly Prince's best work to date, and it is considerably better than it was, at least at first, in London. I understand that now the London production has been adapted to keep it in line with New York, but certainly this second production is far more radicalized and Brechtian, particularly in

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Radio

Out of the smoke, into the sound

This, as near as makes no odds, is where we went out. The sense of time that never was is strengthened by the fact that in some areas what is happening now is almost identical to what was happening when we stopped. As we fell silent, the winners of the Imperial Tobacco Company Awards for Radio were about to be announced; we could back to a very similar announcement. There are differences, of course—such as the winners, just as important, the sponsors are no longer a tobacco company, but Pyle Radio and they, unlike their predecessors, have been sufficiently gracious to allow that the Awards were first thoughts of by the Society of Authors, and to give the name of the Society pride of place. So now we have The Society of Authors/Pyle Radio Awards, which, even in barbaric 1979, a sense of fitness will, I hope, prevent us from abbreviating into SOAP. More seriously there is, of course, a considerable fitness in the fact that from the beginning many of its originators were unhappy with the tobacco money connection and are glad to be without it.

As to the Awards themselves, details have already been published in the press and I do not want to repeat

them here, so let me just mention some of the triumphs which have particularly delighted me. That a Best Production Award would eventually go to David Spenser was written in the stars, but how grand that the writing should come over the horizon so soon! Severe Sardou's *Swallows* was a marvelous script superbly produced; so was the Best Performance by an Actor chosen by a man plying his trade for the World Service (David Suchet in *The Kreutzer Sonata*) will, I hope, do something to cheer the much threatened community in Bush House; that two Awards (Documentary and Specialist Programme) should land on John Theodoras's production, *The Spring of Memory*, seems to me only fair recognition for that extraordinary programme in which a hypnotized Bill Morrison regressed until he quite vanished into his mother's womb and it should do something to encourage those who labour to revive the feature. *The Hardman*, Tom McGrath's stage play about a Glasgow criminal, won in the Best Adaptation category and deserved to for this was a play which conveyed with exceptional clarity something exceedingly disquieting about the nature of criminal life.

Writing of the awards reminds me that the last twelve months also saw the creation of a new prize: the Giles Cooper Award for radio drama set up by the BBC in association with Eys Methuen who

published the half dozen winning scripts. A shining innovation but, somewhat tarnished by my opinion of the quality of the field. Perhaps next year at least one of the successful plays will come within sight of matching that brilliance in the use of radio which was a hallmark of the man after whom the whole affair is named.

But what else was happening that non-existent year ago? Good heavens, it was only last November 23 that the whole of November radio underwent the conversion that accompanied the change of wavelengths. It seemed a very quiet convulsion at the time and a few days later, the Corporation felt itself able to declare "Better reception on new wavelengths". Alas, such changes are like reading on the tail of a very large brontosaurus: it takes the creature a considerable time to register the pain and start thrashing around. It wasn't quite all "better". How could it be in a world where more and more people with bigger and better transmitters are jostling for space in the overcrowded air? So that is what lay behind the *Bright Angel Trail*. Closer to the rim, and a little way to the east of that point, are "services" of another kind. Necessary services for the several million visitors who travel to the Grand Canyon each year. But services which could easily be located elsewhere.

There are souvenir stores, a trailer park, hotels and restaurants, and though approach by private car is rigidly controlled, with a free shuttle bus service to compensate, there is talk of moving all the "facilities" some five miles back to a less obtrusive location. The National Park Service has no power to order this to be done, although I suspect they favour it greatly. The oldest "facility" is the El Tovar hotel, a log chateau built in 1905 and this could conceivably remain as a museum. It certainly doesn't make a good hotel for the simple reason that it is always overcrowded. A three hour queue for dinner is not uncommon—the rule rather than the exception, I was told—so its restaurant should be avoided at all costs. But one has to eat somewhere and the "lodges"—Bright Angel, Kachina and Thunderbird—were just as ahead if you stay in the establishments of one or other of the hotel and motel chains. If you elect to take your own accommodation in the form of a camper or trailer, they should find, as I did, that they are remarkably easy to handle and though you will get barely more than a dozen miles to the gallon—English, not American—that gallon will cost you far less. You will also find that a stand in a camping site comes complete with water and electricity services, and sewage disposal pipes, all of which may be linked to your vehicle.

The location, however, is breathtaking, with the West Rim drive swinging round past the lodges to Hopi Point. If you make for any of the lookout points you can gaze out at the opposite rim, 18 miles away, or peer down to where the Colorado river winds along in course, a mile below where you stand.

I came to the Grand Canyon by way of Las Vegas from Los Angeles, and I suspect this is what very many Britons will be doing in 1980. The approach for tourists, California took remarkable good and Los Angeles with Skytrain now well established, is one of the major gateways to the USA for such tourists. Once they have "done" Los Angeles—the city itself is of little merit but it has some remarkable tourist attractions, such as Disneyland and escaping that cluster of civilization on its South Rim, is to take a mule ride down Bright Angel Trail. They go just about every day of the year, with several strings of mules carrying trepid tourists down from the corral near Bright Angel Lodge. These excursions are extremely popular and therefore are booked up well in advance, but that does not rule out the chance of going if you merely turn up in hope. Quite a number of people opt out when they see for the first time what they have booked themselves in for.

A day trip 18.15 am start, back between 2.30 and 4 pm, takes you down Bright Angel trail to Plateau Point, 1300 feet above the river, and costs a little over £12. The overnight trip takes you right down to the river itself, and across to Phantom Ranch, at a cost of around £40-£45. It looks extremely dangerous and I said as much to one of the "cowboys" gathering his group in the corral. "We've been running these rides close on a hundred years, and we ain't

lost a visitor yet," he replied laconically. "The mules didn't break so lucky, though." The Americans themselves have made the Grand Canyon their number one tourist attraction—natural attraction, that is. They are extremely conscious of man's effect upon it and worry that they might, in the words of their own *National Geographic* magazine, be "loving it to death". Having said that, I would urge anyone with half-formed plans to visit the American West to include the Grand Canyon in those plans, to watch the amazing play of light upon the rock faces as the sun moves through the sky above it, to try and imagine what the first discoverers and explorers must have felt when they came upon it, to come to terms with its overwhelming splendour.

All you must bear in mind, however, is that no matter what photographs you take, no matter what beautifully illustrated guide books you buy, they will be inadequate when you return and try to tell your friends and neighbours what it was all like.

Some time ago, the United States Travel Service decided that would no longer deal direct with the public, but established 2,000 "USA Travel Planning Centres" around the country—local travel agents to whom one was recommended to go.

Considerable pressure was brought on the USTS to reconsider this decision, and to lift the threat of closure that subsequently hung over the London office. It seems that the London office has been reprieved, and that slight second thoughts are being had about not serving the public direct.

The USTS has set up a public information service to enable it to respond to the enormous public interest in travel to America more effectively".

So, in addition to turning to your local US Travel Planning Centre, you can now write for information to the USTS, Box 2000 London, SE1, or telephone 01-237 2011-2-3.

John Carter

Chess

A question of expansion

This is a matter of some importance since three players qualify from each tournament for the series of Candidates' matches next year. Originally, the Riga Interzonal, containing as it did two such strong grandmasters as Hort and Kaváček, was stronger than that one in Rio de Janeiro. But when the two were unseated, played and then taken over by Romanishin and Madanis the Rio de Janeiro event became stronger on top, where it remained.

Not that kind of rough justice was not achieved in the end as regards the players who did not qualify from both Interzonals for the Candidates. In fact, the Riga tournament was noteworthy for the return to world championship form of the former world champion, Mikhail Tal. Perhaps playing in his own home town inspired him to a happy return to the wonderful style of play that only a Tal could produce and he came as outstanding first with the remarkable score of 14 out of 17, without losing a game and winning no less than eleven.

Second was the Soviet grandmaster, Polugayevsky, with 11½ points and there was a tie for third and fourth places between the two Hungarian grandmasters, Adorjan and Ribi, who played off a match for the third qualifying place for the Candidates'. This ended in a draw so that Adorjan qualified by reason of a better Sonnenborn-Berger point count in the Interzonal ahead of many other stronger players because of a special provision that any African player scoring 50 per cent or more would qualify for the tournament.

An instance of the absurdity of this accretion of weak players on grounds other than their being the best of their zone was provided by a zonal tournament in Portugal last year when a player from Africa was given a place in the Interzonal ahead of many other stronger players because of a special provision that any African player scoring 50 per cent or more would qualify for the tournament.

There are also practical reasons why two Interzonals tournaments are the cause of inequalities. No matter how well or wisely the division of the two tournaments is done, it seems inevitable that they will not be of equal strength. And

and the Soviet former world champion, Tigran Petrosian, who all scored 11½. Just half a point away came the very talented young Dutch grandmaster, Jan Timman, with a score of 11. It seems a pity that a player of his enormous talent will have to wait another four years before he can meet the world champion in a match for the title. He will be still quite young and his time will probably come.

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B-N2; 11. B-KN2, 0-0; 12. KN2-K2, N-K4; 13. P-B4, N(K4)-Q2; 14. 0-0, R-K1; with equality.

It would have been better to have centralized the Knight by 15... N-Q2.

Tempting, but all the same, weakening; better was 27...

(Diagram)

28 PxP Pxp 29 K-R3

Too many weakening pawn moves; better was 27... N-R5.

28 K-R3 Pxp 27 P-R3 K-R4

Tempting, but all the same, weakening; better was 27...

N-R5.

Position after 27..., P-QN4.

White, Hübner, Black, Balashov, English Opening.

1. P-QB3 P-K3 2. Q-P4 N-QB3
3. P-Q4 P-Q4 4. P-B4 P-Q5

He intends to play P-QN3 followed by B-N2 and then the Queen will be better placed on Q2 than on Q1.

5... N-B3 6. P-QN5-N3

In the Semi-final match of the 1977 Candidates' series at Riga, in a game between Korchnoi and Polugayevsky, Korchnoi played here 6. P-QR4; 7. P-K4, P-Q5; 8. P-N1, Pxf1; 9. Pxf1, P-KNS; 10. P-KN2;

and the game was decided in favour of Korchnoi.

A blunder: but the game was already gone.

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Fred Emery

A week of bitter medicine

During our absence, Westminster colleagues said some of the fun had gone out of political reporting now that the Conservatives were in with such a majority. Something similar was conveyed on my arrival in Washington in 1970—and look what happened then. For all our sakes let's hope that any analogy with Nixon ends right there. But there is no gainsaying that this has been an extraordinary week to return to print.

Our monetarist, anti-public expenditure government can get control of neither spending nor money supply and so turns the credit squeeze into something resembling a mangle. It delivers ultimatums to the EEC and in the same breath, it scores an uplifting new triumph in creating a Rhodesian settlement. Yet with the stick nor the glory can be contented for more than a moment when along sweeps Mrs Thatcher's confirmation of the very darkest rumour.

It is simply that a traitor has been allowed by successive governments to remain at the heart of the establishment, imperilling the repurification of our Queen, and yet tipped off by the Government before the announcement so that he could decently retire from unseemly questioning. It defies belief, and is certainly better than Le Carré,

but we have it from Cabinet ministers that Professor Blum's lawyers were advised in advance of Mrs Thatcher's statement. They wonder at the fuss.

You will search in vain in Mrs Thatcher's statement for the word traitor; treason is still a hanging offence and Mrs Thatcher is an ardent advocate of the return of hanging.

At the same time let it not be believed that this was some venture in open government. Professor Blum had been flushed out by an author, formerly a distinguished BBC producer and also named in *Private Eye*. Mrs Thatcher's formal unmasking did not have to come out the same day as the Chancellor shocked the business world with his three per cent jump in MLR. It could have come the day before or the day after. But let us accept it as coincidence and not in turn be over-diverted.

Suffice it to say that this kind of affair has a habit of not going away; already more questions are raised than are answered. We might expect the Prime Minister after all this to be a little more prudent before setting the law onto journalists as her first reflex; the lack of information from which Prime Ministers dare to operate.

But that is still an active issue today.

The realization that the situation is worse than many politicians expected has begun to sink home with a vengeance. One Cabinet minister confided before the week began that he doubted whether Mrs Thatcher, in the heady days of wielding supreme power, had herself yet fully grasped how bad things were, and how immeasurably great the effort to turn Britain round would be.

But after this week's three per cent increase in MLR, in an attempt to put a clamp on the elusive export supply, there is little doubting that the Prime Minister is privately admiring whatever medicine she thinks is needed to halt rising economic temperatures—never mind the cure.

If there is nothing else, monetarism is to be enough. Mr John Biffen, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, told us in a speech this week that Cabinet ministers outside the Treasury circle admit they have no effective counter-argument to the present policy, even though they share scepticism of the monetarist lengths being pursued.

They believe the strategy is right. But they want to be in a position to advise on prudent course adjustments

to meet shifting seas, without being pounced on and accused of a U-turn as if it were something disreputable. They admit this is less easy since Sir Geoffrey Howe proclaimed at their Blackpool conference that there would be no U-turns. Instead, they are referring to what they call "damage limitation".

To the extent that there is tangible disquiet among Conservative back-benchers it is the extreme discomfort of going home to face constituents angry over mortgages, or crushed in their hopes for small business expansion. At the same time they are saddled with a Government which claims there has been cut in the level of public spending. Enough Conservatives now want to know why there cannot be even more cuts in spending.

One answer may lie in what some MPs see as the most fascinating policy struggle facing the Government this winter.

It is, in my layman's terms, whether public sector borrowing must be cut still further, or whether it can be allowed to rise to cope with unavoidable social expenditure during a recession. The Government's new chief economic adviser, Professor Terry Burns, is credited, now as

earlier, with favouring a higher PSBR. And whenever asked in the Commons, both Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr Biffen have declined to answer.

On that decision will hang cuts and misery, especially if Mrs Thatcher fails to get the £100m change she wants in the EEC budget.

There are signs of "damage limitation" in other policy areas. For most, there is Lord Carrington's boldness for peace, in preference to a continuing war in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia that would have been certain in any bilateral deal. The trade union reform, too, though they will not be as sweeping as the right-wing would like. Even this requires tight immigration rules, however, and a handful of Liberal Tories may find them perty are, arguably, not as dishonourable as the proposals on which the Tories fought the election.

Why cause trouble for Mr Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, the argument is heard, when he has now stage-managed such a furore that the proposed register and quota arrangements, so dear to the anti-immigrant lobby, will become unthinkable?

Why indeed, except that one man's small mercies become another man's outrage.

Picking up the contest clues again

When Robinson Crusoe saved himself from shipwreck he also salvaged much useful equipment, including, as reading matter, some books on navigation and three very good Bibles. Celebrities nowadays are led to expect (in addition to the standard desert-island equipment of the Bible and Shakespeare) a selection of gramophone records and a book of their own choice. There are some of our readers, however, who would not find these amenities entirely satisfying and would miss the daily delivery of a crossword for the regular stimulation of their wits. Sadly, these readers have had a foretaste of the agonies of desert-island withdrawal from the crossword habit.

One is reminded of Ben Gunn, marooned for three years on Treasure Island, where he lived on goats and berries and oysters. "But, mate," said he to Jim Hawkins, "my heart is sore for Christian chef. I'm many's the long night I've dreamed of cheese-toasts and here I were." Likewise our shipwrecked puzzlers, though not doubt surviving through the barren months on such other fare as the island provides, may have been dreaming the while of their own version of Ben Gunn's toasted cheese.

"They built Carter up and knocked him down, and if he can pull himself up again, they'll love the idea of his making a come-back."

Teddy Kennedy is exciting

—the newest thing we have to a royal family and we need that—it stands for something marvelous and crazy and also tragic in American life, which can be awfully dull."

There are no causes to fight for, except he adds, with a fair amount of mischief, the nationalization of the oil companies.

"I was at a dinner party last summer, sitting next to a woman from Houston, and the price of gas had gone up that day, and I said 'why not nationalize the oil companies, the oil workers having so many, and the equivalent of prison for a corporation could be, 10 years' nationalization.' This woman got obscene—she called me the same dirty name seven times in a row."

It has, perhaps, been his role in "American life to introduce the outrageous new idea and get called the same dirty name."

The 1979 Cutty Sark Times National Crossword Champion closely pursued by former national finalists Mrs Sally Stevens and Sir David Hunt solved a specially commissioned crossword in the infuriatingly short time of 83 minutes. Meanwhile the wise virgins who had kept the headlines concerning the 1979 Championship or had seen it advertised in other daily or Sunday papers applied for and received the qualifying puzzle and sufficient numbers qualified for all seven regional finals—with no overflowing, so that for the first time no British eliminatory puzzle was necessary. The qualifying puzzles will be published in *The Times*, before long, as will the Nationwide puzzle before mentioned, and the puzzles used at the regional and national finals.

The venues and dates of the seven regional finals, with numbers of competitors and the names of those qualifying for the National Final (on the basis of one qualifier for every 60 competitors) are given below.

At the Oxford headquarters, volunteer bank clerks process the flood of cheques. Officials admit to concern that the sheer scale of the Kampuchean disaster has pushed some very serious needs in other parts of the world into the background.

Meanwhile Mr Stringer is in France for four more locomotives of the right type and even for Khmer-alphabet typewriters.

"The way in which little Oxfam has tried to fit in and respond spontaneously and on the spot to the endless list of Kampuchea's needs is very impressive indeed," Mr Stringer told a meeting of organizers in Oxford when I was there. "We are blessed by this opportunity to help, and I hope we shall not fail them."

Dan van der Vat

Mailer and a monument to death



Norman Mailer: a good, quick book

In 1977 Gary Gilmore, a habitual criminal and double murderer, was executed by firing squad in the American state of Utah. Gilmore himself had insisted on the sentence being carried out. *The Executioner's Song* (Hutchinson, £8.85), Norman Mailer's latest book, is the story of this macabre cause célèbre and its background.

Is it a novel? Yes, says Mailer, although all of it is fact, and as he jokingly said, he didn't want it in the non-fiction best selling list along with "those sneaker books".

It's been, therefore, on the fiction list of the *New York Times* for three weeks. "I wrote it to read like a novel. We have certain expectations when we read a novel, and they are different for non-fiction. If we read *Heart of Darkness* do we say to the author 'Please analyze Mr Kurtz—what an extraordinary character?'

The people in the book are small town Americans, whom he has with interest and a kind of affection. Certainly, he says, they have no standards of life that the respectable would recognize, but they have their own code, and a great deal of low life is revealed, in the frankest possible way, by their own words.

"In Utah there are mountains to the east and desert to the west and the superhighway in between—the towns are attached to the highway and one town is exactly like another. I would probably understand life on the hoof far better in London than in Utah—life is episodic there, you are never going to climb a mountain and descend into a valley".

This senseless existence is true, he thinks of all the western states, and much of small town

life. So the novel doesn't fit it either—anyway, Gilmore embodies all the themes I have been writing about for 20 years—that the soul may expire before the body, that there is a tire to die—and Gilmore was also the kind of psychopath I have been interested in."

How Oxfam got into the big league

The bold and ingenious pioneering work of Oxfam in bringing the first western aid to the starving millions of Kampuchea against appalling odds has irreversibly transformed the character of Britain's largest direct-action charity.

Because it was the first, Oxfam has received enormous publicity and now finds itself acting as coordinator of the combined efforts of more than 20 western non-governmental relief agencies in the unpre-

dented Kampuchea relief programme.

After a slow start, British

public response to the

genocidal scale of that in

Kampuchea may fail to inspire

reaching overwhelming proportions, spurred by ATV's horrifying documentary and the runaway success of the campaign launched by BBC Television's *Blue Peter* children's programme. Now Oxfam may channel £6m in British and

foreign voluntary aid by Christo-
mas to Kampuchea alone, it would
have expected to raise this year
anyway for all its other projects.

Oxfam's crucial role in the period during which the hands of the great international agencies like Unicef and the Red Cross were tied by political red tape is well known. Less well known is how the charity tackled its self-imposed task. Oxfam's deputy director, Mr Guy Stringer, told *The Times* during a recent interview in Oxford, born from frustration in the Far East how he and his colleagues achieved their breakthrough by inspired improvisation.

The opening move was to help organize the first western relief effort: a flight to Phnom Penh, the devastated Kampuchean capital, by a chartered aircraft carrying medical supplies. Oxfam's technical officer, Mr James Howlett, went with it and stayed for 10 days to assess needs.

Meanwhile Mr Stringer was in Singapore hiring a barge the size of a football pitch, a tug to tow it and buying 1,500 tons

of basic foods to put aboard.

Even a catastrophe on the

higher feelings: most of the

first consignment of rice put

aboard the barge was discov-

ered, in the nick of time, to be

thoroughly rotten and had to

be replaced.

Mr Stringer, an extraordi-

narily energetic and resourceful

former marketing director of

59, arrived in Singapore on

September 23 with a briefcase

containing £50,000.

After celebrating his birthday on board the tug, Mr Stringer brought the first barge into Kompong Som harbour on October 13, with £200,000-worth of supplies aboard.

"We found hardly any trace

of governmental organization in

Kampuchea," said Mr Stringer.

The minister of economics was

waiting for the quayside and I

presented him with a carbon

paper." As he walked through

the unparalleled devastation he

found the deserted streets al-

most awash with discarded

banknotes. "Rice is the only

thing now," he said.

Even though the tug had run

up the wrong Kampuchean flag

on its arrival, the initial wariness and distance of the authorities in Kompong Som soon made way for a distinct warmth towards the Oxfam team, who were the first Western visitors to enter the area in five years.

Oxfam's normal role is to provide funds and expertise for small-scale agricultural, sanitary and other projects in third world villages, usually on a cash donation whenever natural disasters strike. Now it has been catapulted into direct and prolonged action on a massive scale to help alleviate one of the greatest human catastrophes of history.

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Dan van der Vat

SPORTS DIARY

he joined the circuit in 1969

when there were only about seven or eight major championships

—one with the Davis Cup

—and you get your season

for Mondays the guys still

prepare for the major championships.

They don't play as much as the rest of us, who

would find it difficult to get by on 16 tournaments a year.

But I am going to recommend a special ATP classification of

three MEs a year—withdrawal

because of mental exhaustion.

I'm disappointed from two

aspects—the entry from the

top of the market and the number

of people dropping out. This is one of the best events on our sports pro-

gramme but we worry about keeping up the reputation we've had in the past three years."

Oscar Wilde was joking when

he wrote that nothing succeeds

like excess. The plethora of

Grand Prix tournaments has to

some extent damaged their

quality. Wembley must have

suffered because rising prices

had made London less attrac-

tive to players and their wives

than it used to be; and, as Stan

Smith was saying this week,

"Wembley used to be a big

ready to
engage

PARLIAMENT Nov 16, 1979

Seeking permission for 'Hansard' to be quoted in court

House of Commons

By 65 votes to four, a majority of 62, MPs approved an application by Mr Albert Roberts (Normanton and Pontefract) for permission to quote extracts from Hansard in the Royal Courts of Justice proceedings of the House, in a High Court case which, according to the petition record in Hansard was, "not an exact, full, verbatim text" of the proceedings in the House. A tape recording and anyone could apply for a copy of that record because it was a document in the possession and copyright of the BBC.

MPs should object to this application for it is not totally accurate like the consequence, it can lead to the benches would get round the loose ends left by successive Leaders of the House. He hoped they would be satisfied as soon as possible so that the kind of action

proceedings could cease to be necessary.

After the division, Mr Michael Foot, who had moved the motion, should apply to the House for permission to do that. But the practice had grown up of late that when the Government in particular did not want to "bother" to apply to the House, it ignored the rule.

Ever since this new Parliament reconvened he had been asking the Leader of the House for a debate on the various recommendations of the Committee of Privileges so that this kind of matter could be sorted out once and for all. It was grossly unsatisfactory at present.

He had heard of many cases where Hansard was cited in court without any application to the House.

The House should preserve the tradition which had endured for many years of extracts from the courts and, as an example of that, the House must petition the House if they wished to quote anything.

It is the right of every member of the House to bring up on occasions when petitions are brought to this House and protest and if necessary object to motions of which Hansard was cited in court without any application to the House.

Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Chairman of the Society of Labour and Liberal Members of the House of Commons (Chelmsford, C) said Mr Foot had raised an important point which had been underlined by the vote.

He had considered the matter and said what could be done, but there was a full timetable and it was difficult to fit everything in.

He recognised the importance of the matter and would appeal to the

Committee of Privileges to debate on this.

Mr St John-Stevens said the grants of a registered charity, Home and Overseas Voluntary Aid Services Ltd ("Hovas") were given in the name of a national fund to set up on one side his taxed income and on the other the amount of the annual payment to him made by the latter was equal to or less than the former, to claim the benefit of the section.

The scheme organised by the taxpayer involved Hovas, purchasing annuities from those wishing to participate. In 1971 he personally took advantage of the scheme on a modest scale and agreed with Hovas he agreed to allow deduction of the payments made, and that neither section 454 nor section 457 of the Act dealing with the plan would apply to the cash itself open to modification at any time—was completely irrelevant. That argument failed.

The third argument under section 454(1) which is the case of payments made for a period which could not exceed six years, deemed income to be income of the taxpayer unless made for valuable consideration.

Justice Walker, in the Court of Appeal, said that the scheme was no ground for holding that the payments were not more than six years.

The Revenue's final argument

arose under section 457 (dealing with income arising under a settlement) to deduction of tax, and Hovas as a registered charity, applied for repayment of the tax (though that part of the plan uncharitable) by means of a pro rata deduction of £500 and Hovas's right to obtain payment from them of the amount deducted.

The taxpayer appealed against section 457 which he argued did not apply to amounts due before the 1976 Act became law.

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office (Aylesbury, C) said that the injunctions Dr Summerskill sent out from the Home Office, when she was a Minister, on the importance of looking for alternatives to the use of animals were to be welcomed.

He would be prepared to accept amendments if the provisions of the Bill were shown to be unnecessary, but the rest of the Bill must remain. Some further restrictions were needed.

The legislation on which the present law was based was now 103 years old. New procedures had been developed more recently outside the jurisdiction of the 1876 Act—for example, the transplants of tumours from one animal to another.

There was widespread feeling that the present law, which gave certificates for experiments was often a mere rubber-stamp.

Testing of non-therapeutic substances was not only for the benefit of the consumer but also for health and safety at work. New legislation should establish proper grounds and be free of ambiguity.

The Government would not stand for any proposal to expand the Bill. But it stood as an acceptable way of dealing with issues of a fundamental nature concerned with animal experimentation.

Dr David Milne (West Lothian, Lab) said he was unhappy about the Bill because it constituted a fundamental threat to medical research.

Mrs Janet Fookes (Plymouth, Devon, C) said an amendment to give carte blanche to anyone to experiment with animals in the name of truth or science. It must be related to some tangible good for human beings or animals.

Mr William Whitlock (Nottingham, North, Lab) said he was happy to support the Bill. These measures were necessary. Even more animals were being cruelly treated in ways that were said to be to the benefit of man.

Mr Peter Bowes (Gateshead, C) said the market was already flooded with tested cosmetics sufficient to satisfy every ordinary woman so why introduce more.

The Bill was read a second time.

Stiffer penalties sought for poaching deer

The Deer Bill, to combat the proliferation of poaching, was given a second reading. Moving the motion, Mr John Doherty (Harroworth, C) said that the Bill strengthened and tightened the Deer Act 1963.

Some provisions were needed to take full account of the position of the deer owners. The Game Commission had no quarrel with the main aim of the Bill—to protect deer from cruelty.

Penalties would be increased especially with two or more ant-

elope adjourned, 4.31 pm.

International anarchy at its most horrifying

A diplomatic mission by agents of the state in which it was accredited in order to enforce a political demand, was international anarchy at its most horrifying.

M. Maurice Martin (France, Com) said the motion lacked decency. Members did not seem to be upset by the monstrous crimes of the Shah. When in 1979, the Shah had killed thousands of people, Parliament had not then wanted to discuss the matter urgently.

His party condemned President Carter's acts of economic warfare against Iran. The demands of the Shah were reasonable.

Mr Roger Gerard Schwartzenberg (Green Soc), moving the motion, said the taking of hostages violated basic human rights, yet the Iranian authorities had approved of activities which went back to prehistoric times.

The embassy had been transformed into a prison. Torture might be too mild. Parliament must speak out behalf of mankind and not leave these hostages to their fate.

Mr Adam Ferguson (Stratford-on-Avon, ED) said fundamental principles of civilised international behaviour had been breached. They were appalled not simply at the failure of the Iranian authorities to inflict on their people what more than 25 years.

The amendment, tabled by M. Martin expressed solidarity with the Iranian people, who are suffering under the heel of the Shah so that he can be tried for the Shah's acts of torture, murders and bloody oppression which he inflicted on his people for more than 25 years.

The amendment was rejected and the motion, tabled by the Socialists, European People's Party, European Democrats, and the Progressive Democrats, was carried.

The motion of the Committee on Energy and Research, discussed yesterday, was carried.

Law Report November 16 1979

Form of tax avoidance scheme within the law

Inland Revenue Commissioners v Plummer

Before Lord Wilberforce, Viscount Dilhorne, Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullyburl and Lord Keith of Kinkel (Speeches delivered November 1).

A tax saving scheme devised in the early 1970s by the then managing director of the firm Walker Group, which had been taxpayers in mind was held by a majority of the House, Viscount Dilhorne and Lord Diplock dissenting, to be valid and to have achieved its object of avoiding the relevant tax savings in the House.

"If," Lord Wilberforce said, "a series of transactions in a certain legal form do not fall within the taxing words and Parliament does not make the payments out of money provided by the promissory notes, which were not taxed income, or out of an overdraft provided by Sauer Walker and fed by the proceeds of the promissory notes."

On the question of whether this different branch of income tax was the law as it stood at the relevant time, the Lordships分歧ed.

The House, by a majority, dismissed the appeal by the Crown from the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Buckley, Lord Justice Bridge and Mr Justice Foster (The Times, May 10, 1979). The Court of Appeal had held that the tax was payable.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab) said according to Erskine May, if it was desired to quote Hansard or other parliamentary papers in court, then the House should object to the practice.

Mr Michael Foot, his political colleague, said he would object to this and all such practices.

The record in Hansard was, "not an exact, full, verbatim text" of the proceedings in the House. A tape recording and anyone could apply for a copy of that record because it was a document in the possession and copyright of the BBC.

MPs should object to this application for it is not totally accurate like the consequence, it can lead to the benches would get round the loose ends left by successive Leaders of the House.

He hoped they would be satisfied as soon as possible so that the law as it stood at the relevant time.

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Stock Exchange Prices **Cheerful gifts**

ACCOUNT DAYS: Deadlines Begin Monday, Deadlines End Dec 7. § Contains Day, Dec 10. Serendipity Day, Dec 17.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Personal
investment and
finance,
pages 22 and 23

THE TIMES SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17 1979

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Stock markets

FT Ind 407.0 up 0.7
FT Gics 64.49 up 1.18

Sterling

\$2.1590 up 1.53 cents
Index 69.4 up 0.5

Dollar

Index 86.9 down 0.3
\$330.55 an ounce up 56.5

3-month money

Inter-bank 17% to 17%
Euro 5 15% to 15%

IN BRIEF

American rates reach new peak of 15½ pc

American interest rates rose yesterday to levels not seen since 1974. In New York, following a bank's other large banks' lead, the lending rate rose 1½ per cent from 15½ per cent. Several economists predicted at the time will go still higher.

Financial markets were jolted by a surge in the domestic money supply, by mounting fears of a bigger recession ahead and by the port that Iran would no longer accept dollars in payment for oil.

ECD deficit forecast
Member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development will show a \$30,500m (about £120m) current account balance of payments deficit in 1980 after a \$29,500m shortfall this year. This latest forecast has been presented to a meeting of the economic policy committee, and estimates the United States will show a \$500m surplus in 1980 after a \$450m 1979 deficit.

10m order for AEG

AEG-Telefunken AG of Frankfurt, has received a 10m (£10.5m) contract to deliver electrical equipment for three chemical factories being constructed by Lurgi, Wohl und Mineraloeltechnik IMBE in China. This is the largest contract so far awarded to a West German electrical firm for the Chinese chemical industry.

MF interest problem

Exploration on how it might trim interest charges on some of its loans to member nations with balance of payments difficulties is being undertaken by the International Monetary Fund.

£400m credit to Greece

A £400m line of government credit, subject to price agreement, is being set up to cover Britain's supplying Greece with 700-MW coal-fired power station, and hardware for extensive railway modernisation.

Courtaulds closure

Courtaulds is to close its Red Star works in Preston and 2,600 workers will lose their jobs. The closure will mean that Courtaulds has stopped producing viscose filament yarn altogether.

Steel protest plans

Steel craftsmen's delegates from all over the country have voted for industrial action over the British Steel Corporation's closure policy. At a special meeting held at Sheffield, delegates agreed to action including an overtime ban, a one day strike and demonstrations to Westminster.

Belgian firms hard hit

A total of 266 Belgian companies shut down in the third quarter of 1979, giving 6,737 workers a week's work, the National Employment Office has reported. Hardest hit was construction, metals, wood, and food.

US union chief quits

Mr Arnold Miller, United Mine Workers' ailing and controversial president, has agreed to step down and turn the union over to Mr Sam Church, the vice-president, a top UMW official, said in Washington.

Chancellor gives warning of jobs at risk unless pay demands are modified

By David Black,
Economics Editor

As new figures showed inflation rising and output falling in October, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, last night launched an attempt to persuade unions to cut their wage demands this winter. In a speech defending the Government's action this week in pushing interest rates to new record heights, Sir Geoffrey gave a warning that unwise settlements during the coming months could "cripple employees and destroy jobs".

Sir Geoffrey backed up his warning with a rough estimate of the Government's determination to hold down the money supply and to limit public borrowing. But in one of the few glimmers of economic optimism this week, he seemed to suggest that determining action to hold down the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement might reduce the need for a prolonged period of high interest rates.

The Chancellor's call for pay restraint was made at a dinner of the Institute of Bankers. It came at the end of a day in which new figures for the Retail Price Index (RPI) showed that prices rose by 1 per cent in October, bringing the rate of inflation for the 12 months to October up to 17.2 per cent. The underlying rate of inflation for the previous six months, after excluding seasonal food, was far higher at 21 per cent.

Much of the inflation in the past six months has been caused by the Government itself in pushing up the rate of VAT in the Budget in order

to pay for cuts in income tax. The relatively new Tax and Prices Index (TPI), which includes changes in income tax, is showing an increase of only 14.8 per cent over the past year, compared to the 17.2 per cent for RPI, the more conventional definition of inflation. The Government had hoped to focus pay negotiators' attention on the TPI to show them the benefits they gain from income tax reductions, but so far this index seems to have had little effect.

Pay settlements are well above the level implied by the Government's monetary policy of allowing money supply to grow by no more than 10 per cent. The consequent increase in earnings will probably keep the inflation rate rising well into next year, when it is expected to peak just below the 20 per cent mark.

The conflict between this level of inflation and the limits on monetary growth are expected to lead to a sharp downturn in output. A forecaster of that came in the latest figures for gross domestic product, provisional estimates of which suggest a 2 per cent fall in the third quarter from the level reached in the second quarter of the year. This represents a high drop, for variations by 1 per cent in the RPI are usually set around 1.2 per cent.

Clearly there is irritation in Government circles about the way in which bank lending has grown in spite of calls to hold it down, and there are suggestions that the banking system is becoming too tight.

It is unlikely that the Government will feel able to relax current interest rate stance until there are clear signs that public borrowing this year will be within the target figure of 13.3 per cent and the money supply itself is under control.

Sir Geoffrey stressed the role which banks could play in helping to bring inflation down, and it seems likely that in doing so he was not merely being polite to his bosses.

Indeed, it may well be that the societies will decide to raise the investment rate from December 1. In that case, additional increases in the mortgage rate, already due to rise from 11½ to 12½ per cent, would take effect from January 1, or as soon as contractually and administratively possible.

How high the societies will

raise their rates remains to be seen, but the effect of the Government's decision to raise the Bank of England's minimum lending rate to 17 per cent could be with us for some time.

As a result, many societies fear that there was no point in waiting to raise their rates until the flow of money into the societies reduced to a trickle.

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PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Now is the time to review your strategy

Face to face with a fully armed and vicious credit squeeze it is a foolish man or woman who does not run for cover.

Before looking at the investment opportunities look at your liabilities—bank overdrafts, loans, credit card debts and mortgage; in short, all forms of borrowing. For now is the time to come to the aid of the Chancellor of Exchequer in his attempt to get money supply under control, if not for patriotic reasons for your own pocket's sake.

With a minimum lending rate at a punitive 17 per cent and base rates following suit, overall interest is now over 20 per cent. You may think that you can shelter behind your credit card's interest rate of 26.8 per cent, but that, too, is likely to be short-lived. Higher interest rates are expected on Monday.

Despite the new and attractive rates of interest which are now being paid to savers, it is not the time to hold cash or short-term savings at the expense of repaying your debts. For even the best returns of 15-16 per cent fade into insignificance beside the cost of borrowed money.

You might argue that the money is being held on deposit in anticipation of a market upturn later. There are people now saying that they can hear the bell which rings at the bottom of the market; unfortunately, no one knows when the actual recovery will come. It could be soon or, as we believe, not until well into next year.

So remember that if you do borrow money to invest—which is in effect what you are doing if you prefer not to repay debt—with dealing expenses and stamp duty any investment you make will have to rise by about 27 per cent a year to put you at break-even point with your debt.

It is a demanding requirement to make of any share, particularly if the equity market remains in the cold for any length of time. Getting in and out after a quick short rise would be a different matter, of course, and there or, conversely, more willing

will be some exceptions to the equity doleman.

The high yields now available on some first class industrial companies, which should be able to preserve their dividends in a recession, will underpin the equity market to some extent, but attention will be mainly focused on gilts and the wide range of fixed interest investments with their competing returns.

As the accompanying table shows, the choice for savers in search of high income has never been greater. There is a spread which embraces both long and short-term investment, and fixed interest investment with variable as well as fixed capital gains.

But, with inflation edging upwards to the 20 per cent mark again, investors should remember that real returns on their money might not be so easy to achieve this coming year. Certainly, there is little in the table apart from the Retirement issue of National Savings Certificates linked to the Retail Price Index which is guaranteed to show a positive return.

This brings us back to gilts. Has the market begun to recover a little of its equilibrium after the long slitherly decline of declining gilt prices? The corrective measure announced on Thursday by the Chancellor may have been greeted with outrage outside the markets and some scepticism inside, but as a short-term palliative at least, they appear to be doing the trick and before the new tax was announced demand was strong for the new long-dated stock yielding 15½ per cent.

There is time enough in this market for both the small investor, who, when he returns, should consider the much cheaper method of purchasing government stocks on the National Savings Stock Register over the post office counter, and the institutions.

Private investors often have perceptions and needs which are different from those of their institutional counterparts. They are either more cautious or, conversely, more willing

Margaret Stone

HOFF of HEYBRIDGE HEATH



Double or quits

Going for a spin with Dunlop

Most new columns start with a greeting. This one is different.

It starts with a warning that this title means what it says.

The appeal is to those whose appetites are so jaded that

only the thrill of losing and occasionally making money

dangerously will entice a dull

day.

The unthinking will object

that this is an odd time to begin a series of irresponsible

tips. Can I not see that the hub of the stockmarket is

sickled over with the pale cast

of recession?

Indeed I can; and that is

why this is the ideal time to

run a column that from time

to time, certainly not from

week to week, will concentrate

on a twilit world of shares,

convertibles and so on which

lead lives all of their own.

So I shall try and avoid

shares that simply move with the market—all blue chips and most second line stocks—which seems wise because I expect them to go down in the coming months rather than up.

And so to Dunlop. Why

not a flustered Dunlop, our

famous Tyre maker, second after Michelin in

Europe, though smaller of

course than the American

giants, Goodyear, Firestone,

Uniroyal and Goodrich.

Tyres have slumped world-

wide, Dunlop is barely profit-

able, and it has its debts. So

the 50p shares are a poorly

44p and yield more than 17

per cent, indicating that the

market thinks the dividend

will be cut. The gamble is that

it will not be, that investors

will come to see this, and that

in time the shares will even-

tually double.

Fainthearted say that Dunlop

is another Leyland; I disagree.

At worst it is much better

equipped than Leyland to sell

profitable interests in plan-

ations and sports goods, and

raise enough money to swamp

its present market capitalisa-

tion.

On the brighter side, Dun-

lop's scope for making real

money once tyre business

turns up is huge. The latest

interim report showed sales of

£766m and pre-tax profits of

£15m.

Peter Wainwright

Income bonds

Short-term bond bandwagon rolls

At the beginning of last month Skandia Life started the ball rolling in short-term guaranteed bonds by launching a two-year bond. Since then more offices have introduced either a one or two-year bond, or both.

On the other hand, the particular tax concessions which are attached to life assurance make it also a suitable medium for investment and there is little doubt that companies manipulate those concessions in ways never originally envisaged.

While fiscal neutrality—broadly interpreted as a plea that all savings institutions should enjoy the same tax privileges—is the battle cry of the institutions, have we, will remain neutral in a different way.

It is not the job of these pages, although it may be elsewhere in the paper, to take sides or pass judgement. The criterion remains: is it a good investment?

It is our job to identify the issues, questions and situations where investors, policyholders, taxpayers, mortgagors, savers and prospective pensioners need positive, practical advice.

In addition, we are now able to deal with individual reader's queries on law, tax and insurance in the new Readers' Forum column.

Margaret Stone

der value equals the original investment. In this case £1,000, there is no liability to "claw back" the tax relief by the Revenue.

The mechanics on the two-year bonds are exactly the same: the investment is split into two single-premium policies, giving two years' income, while three annual premiums are paid.

B

Business is booming. Not only are the bonds profitable for the companies but they also offer very attractive returns for the investor. On one-year bonds he can have an annual yield of up to 16 per cent net of basic rate tax, with a little less on the two-year bonds. These rates are extremely attractive compared with other short-term homes for cash and are available by courtesy of the tax relief offered.

A

As the tax relief accounts for much of the gain on these policies, companies emphasize that potential investors should consider carefully whether they are eligible for such relief before signing along the dotted line. Merchant Investors paid £1,000 in three instalments on its one-year bond, while the TSB paid £1,000 in one year.

T

The bonds are a package of two insurance policies—a one-year "qualifying" annual premium endowment and a "non-qualifying" single premium endowment.

O

On the one-year bond, the investment is split equally to pay a premium on both policies. With a £1,000 investment, £500 pays the first instalment on the annual premium plan. This policy provides life cover and the guaranteed surrender value at the end of the term.

H

The remaining £500 buys the single premium endowment. After twelve months this policy pays the investor the whole of his income, about £150, and also provides the second £500 instalment on the annual premium policy.

T

The second annual premium is only paid on the basis of the rate available on the policy. For each £500 invested here the company receives £106 from the Revenue—that is, 17½ per cent of the gross premium, equivalent to 21.2 per cent of the net investment.

I

Immediately after this premium has been paid, the policy is surrendered. At the surren-

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EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

Investor's week

New stocks five gilts breather at last

s was one of those weeks in which we were meant to feel better. Indeed some City gentlemen felt themselves purified by the way Government had passed an important test.

By unceremoniously dumping at lumps of gilt-edged stock in the market, the authorities worked a mad scramble and this way borrowed money from institutions to pay over-weight. Government made sure the price was high according to some, because it was too high if it could show that the money supply was again coming under control. With this great man after ordinary shares re-walkers at the dance. At great cost, the Government has indeed paid for a few weeks more of Government's ending. But did the exercise really mean that the eagerly awaited turn in gilt-edged rates had come? If it has, it is only because months before rates start climbing again.

I do not believe that the turn gilts has yet come, despite yesterday's gains, and over the month I also expect

the FT Index (it fell from 420.5 407 this week) to move into a 300-350 area.

The latest measures in so far this week mean an even sharper downturn in the economy with all that means pressure on profit margins. There is also the possibility that at present—that reigned money will come in and the pound still higher, under British industry even more uncompetitive in world markets.

It is also reasonable to look for bankruptcies, including among famous unexpected names over the next nine months. Strikes will not be the only test of the Government's nerves.

This past week Boots could only manage static interim profits; Unilever slowed down sharply; Chloride did as poorly as it feared; and the international giant, Philips is doing little better than marking time. They are a foretaste of things to come.

Gilt-edged prices have been used this week, but the upturn will only stop when world interest rates, especially American, stop rising. When inflation, still spending up, starts falling; and when the Government's need to sign off money from gilt-edged securities is seen to lessen.

I expect all these things to get worse before they get better, and in particular it will probably take time for the United States to put its house in order. Presidential election year has begun.

PW

The Times
SPECIAL REPORTS
put where and
when it counts

What kind of share manager would you make?

Perhaps you'd make a very good share manager. If you had the time.

But today's economic climate makes the expert management of shares, more than ever, a full time job. And that's why you benefit by exchanging your quoted shares for Canlife units.

Our professional share managers are able to give your investment the kind of up to the minute attention demanded by present market conditions.

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In addition, an investment in Canlife Units offers certain Capital Gains Tax advantages.

As part of The Canada Life Group, currently managing assets in excess of £1,000 million, Canada Life Unit Trust Managers can call upon a wealth of investment experience which reaches back 130 years.

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TT 17-11

Canlife units

Experience - where experience counts.

Monopolizing the market in tables

The lifting of exchange controls will open the gates for a flood of British investment money into everything from Mexican cannabis farms to Korean massage parlours—the taste of the British investor for the bizarre and the unusual being what it is—and the market expects both sharks' teeth and cowrie shells to go to a premium against sterling by the year end.

You may think I am exaggerating. But how else can the astounding investment offerings that are made so constantly be explained in those organs of the press that are patronized by, among others, the unnecessarily rich?

Old Timothy Forsyte, with his predilection for consols, would have choked on his shoulder of mutton or the idea of postage stamps as an investment. Nonetheless, these days are long past when this was the sole outlet of the ordinary, and indeed one can think of more than one firm of stockbrokers prepared to give advice on them.

Even they, however, presumably draw the line at silver replicas of postage stamps, or gold replicas of Indian pig-sticking prints of the 1870's or pewter replicas of chamber pots of the famous. This does not seem to curb the imagination and enterprise of those who dream up for us such unlikely temptations as porcelain hand bells or seven replica glass walking sticks in a set, one for every day of the week (suit

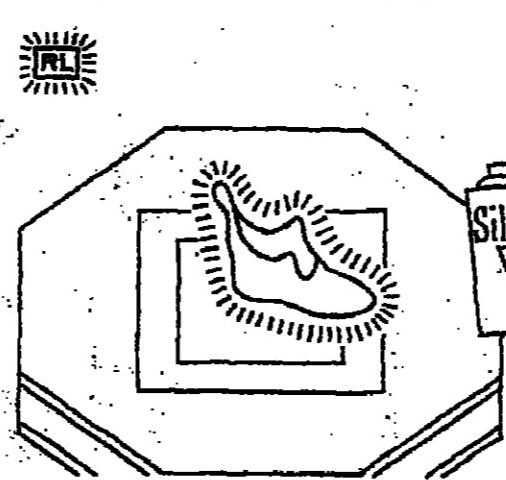
well-bred gentleman with delicate wrists).

However, as our new masters keep telling us, the market is all. And if there are people who are prepared to shell out good money earned from the sweat of their great-grandfathers' brows for such unconsidered trifles then there is nothing like the rest of us can do about it except curl the lip in mild disdain. Or that's what I thought about it until a few weeks ago.

What changed my mind was to read in one of the weekend colour supplements an advertisement of such breathtaking vulgarity that it must have broken all inter-galactic records. I immediately desired to share it with you in case you missed it.

Described as "a major investment opportunity—in a strictly limited edition of 500," this "exclusive" hand-crafted Monopoly table is yours, all yours, for a little master of £866 including fittings and fittings, the latter being rich and rare enough to reflect the taste of the sub-editor of the Book of the Revelation of St John the Divine.

Thus, the traditional play tokens, breathe the advertisement—the flat-iron, boot, top hat, bone and canes are all finely worked in sterling silver by one of London's leading silversmiths; each token being individually hallmarked, of



course. Within the table's two concealed compartments, the "banker's" drawers, nestle the special gilt-edged laminated Chance, Community Chest and Property Cards and the hotels and houses in appropriately dyed sycamore. (I am not making it up, I am quoting, honestly).

It doesn't actually say that the dice are finely worked from lightly polished Tanzanian elephant ivory and that the money hand-painted by monks on wafer-thin Icelandic vellum. But you will be glad to hear that the hand-crafted top is definitely crafted—and possibly even arted—in Cameroon cherry mahogany with carefully

matched wood graining, the Monopoly track being in Ceylonese satinwood with a marquetry border and the legs and lips of rich African redwood.

The matching dice shaker is provided with a special non-stuffing brown suede base so as not to violate the table's finish of three coats of lacquer which is then hand-waxed and polished. The Lord be praised for that, anyway.

These fortunate enough to acquire this item, continue the blur, will recognize it as a super investment (though it is inconceivable that they will be so lucky), and it is certain that they will be the only ones who do so). In any event, just in case the entire burgling com-

munity of Tower Hamlets is

reaching for its jemmies this very minute, to verify authenticity of ownership each table set will be individually numbered and the owner's name craftily hand engraved on to brass plates applied theron.

Hey, hang on a minute, there! Brass? As in where-there's-muck-there's? I must say, I think brass plates are a bit off. Definitely a bit off. I mean Manuel will have to hand polish them lovingly every day at the same time as the finely worked sterling silver flat-iron, boot, top hat, boat, dog and car.

And you know what servants are these days! Well, I mean, in an age of cost cutting, no expense has been spared to use the very best of materials, and particularly since "credit card facilities are available", one would have thought they could at least have had the authentication of ownership verified finally, with a 24-carat no-nada-to-polish gold of London's leading goldsmiths.

Frankly, dear readers, that puts me off the whole thing. I mean, completely. That, and the fact that if there's a better example of those elements in our society that make one stone cold certain that a red revolution is inevitable, I would like to hear it.

Francis Kinsman

Insurance

Back to basics: family protection comes first

Life assurance is the best answer for family protection. Leaving aside the investment or tax advantages approach, for a modest outlay (much lower than in most other parts of the world), you can cover your life for many thousands of pounds.

Personal accident insurance may seem to be a cheaper alternative still, but it has the great drawback that should you die other than as a result of an accident your family would get nothing.

Insurance brokers don't go out of their way to sell policies which simply offer financial protection in the event of death.

If, however, you make it clear what you want, a broker should be able to get a competitive quote. Seldom is one company the "best" for all ages and terms of policy.

If maximum cover at minimum cost is the aim, it is straight protection which is

really are among the leaders. Commercial Union can be competitive where large sums are involved.

Also often in the running are Swiss Life, UK Provident, National Provident Institution and Economic, with Sun Life being well known as a good market for anyone with a health impairment.

Remember to check a broker's quote with the leading non-commission life offices—the Ecclesiastical (laity, as well as clergy are accepted), Equitable Life, London Life—which will normally be considered by a broker who lives by commission only.

Whole life assurance is a combination between protection and saving, since it will pay out whenever you die—so a claim is inevitable at some stage. As a result, cost is higher than for a policy where the chances are that you will not make a claim.

If you are 30 and want the policy to run to the age of 65, cover can be about three times as expensive as for the shorter term. At 45, to run to the age of 60, each £10,000 of cover costs about 16p a day—which is hardly excessive.

It costs little more to add a

convertible option. If your policy is about to run out, but you are in failing health, you could convert (without providing any medical evidence) into a whole life policy—to pay whenever you die.

How much cover you need is up to you, but if you are around the age of 30 and need a 20-year policy, the cost may be just over 4p a day for every £10,000 of cover. This is the minimum; many insurers use a higher starting point.

Four times salary is the best level in companies providing death cover.

Any smoker who gives up smoking and puts the cost towards this protection could buy high cover—and doctors, no doubt, would say that the possibility of a claim would be reduced.

If you are 30 and want the policy to run to the age of 65, cover can be about three times as expensive as for the shorter term. At 45, to run to the age of 60, each £10,000 of cover costs about 16p a day—which is hardly excessive.

It costs little more to add a

convertible option. If your policy is about to run out, but you are in failing health, you could convert (without providing any medical evidence) into a whole life policy—to pay whenever you die.

Normally, policy proceeds are left to a spouse, and are free from capital transfer tax. It can, however, be a good plan for at least some of the benefits to be written in trust for the children. In this way the money passes to the children free from capital transfer tax.

The main alternative to term assurance is family income benefits—where tax-free income is paid out by the life office from the date of death until expiry of the policy.

Family income benefits give the best protection in the event of death during the early years of the policy. (Term assurance is better if you die towards the end of the period). For a 25-year term, each £2,500 a year of benefits costs rather more than 25 a year for a 25-year-old, and £100 a year plus for a 40-year-old.

All these are gross premiums; at present you pay 17% per cent less, with the Inland Revenue making up the difference. In other words for each £100 invested, you pay £82.50 and the balance is reclaimed from the Revenue.

John Drummond



Tower Special Situations Trust

First offer of units at 25p per unit (Application received on or before 8th December 1979 will be allowed at the final price of 25p each. However units will be allotted daily at the quoted offer price.)

The aim of this new trust is to make as much money as possible for its investors from capital gain in the shares of "special situation" companies.

The Managers will invest for capital growth in:

1 PRIME TAKE OVER TARGETS—identified by the same criteria that bidding companies employ before launching a take-over bid.

2 STATUS CHANGE SITUATIONS—under which formerly indifferent companies are transformed into growth organisations by moving into new business areas.

3 RECOVERY SITUATIONS—where new management or new methods restore a declining company to a better rate of profitability, resulting in recovery in the share price.

4 OPPORTUNITY BUYING—at attractive prices of shares in smaller companies, new issues and rights issues, which offer good prospects of capital gain.

The investment management team has particular expertise in running this type of unit trust.

The Directors who will manage Tower Special Situations Trust have operated as a proven investment

Tower Unit Trust Management Limited, City Gate House, 39/45 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1PX.

Additional Information

Applications will be accepted at the close of 11.00 a.m. on Friday 8th December 1979. Applications received after this date will be accepted daily at the quoted offer price.

Capital growth will take precedence over income growth. The estimated commencing gross yield on the units now being offered at 25p each is 3%.

Applicants should note that the price of units and the income from them can move down as well as up and an investment in the units should be regarded as long term.

To purchase units please complete the application form and send it with your cheque to the address shown.

This offer closes on 8th December 1979.

Offer of UNITS at 25p EACH

To: Tower Unit Trust Management Limited, City Gate House, 39/45 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1PX, Telephone 01-28 2294/7.

Received in England No. 1488151 or the address above.

I enclose my application for 1 unit (minimum initial purchase £100 units) and my cheque for £_____.

Surname(s) Mr/Mrs/Miss _____

Full first name(s) _____

Address(es) _____

I declare that I am over 18.

Office Use _____

Date _____

Signature(s) _____

If you have professional advice please consult them regarding this offer.

Reinvestment of net income—please tick box _____

Details of Share Exchange Scheme required—please tick box _____

TIM

MS

The Times/Halifax house price index

Monthly index of average prices of second-hand houses (Seasonally adjusted)

Index	December	100.0	14,757
1978	January	105.8	15,579
	March	109.3	16,133
	June	118.2	17,450
	September	117.4	17,326
	October	119.9	17



The superb Thirties exhibition at the Hayward Gallery, on until January 13, while it goes far beyond just one labelled period, is bound to add to the already considerable interest in collecting Art Deco. It is nine years since *Art and Antiques Weekly* gave its considered opinion that much of that particular period was "flashy tat", and during that time prices have soared.

So you will need more than pennies from heaven to become a collector, but if the style appeals, it would be worth making a visit to L'Odéon in Fulham High Street, where David Sarel and Noel Tovey have such an excellent collection that they supply museums. They have Bugatti and Lalique, which they say is "going crazy", and a selection of heavy glass vases etched with acid to give a rough, contrasting texture. These are by the French designer Dauvin and cost around £500. Next year, says Mr Sarel, their price could double. Art Deco has been through its fashion phase, he feels, and is now being taken seriously.

He also recommends ceramics from the Wiener Werkstätte group, a movement going on in Austria at the same time as Art Deco. Also important in America, this work is beginning to be sought by connoisseurs here too. Names to look for are Josef Hoffmann and Koloman Münzer.

Other specialists in the period, for your address book, are Tony Coakley, 4-5 The Galleries, Camden Passage, N1; Cobra, 220 New Kings Road, SW6; The Folk Lewis Collection, 274 Fulham Road, SW6; and M Pruskin, Chenil Galleries, 183 Kings Road, SW3.

Beryl Downing has joined The Times as shopping editor. She began her career on the Manchester Evening News, became editor of the fashion magazine, Flair, and for four years was shopping editor and consumer correspondent for the London Evening News. Her weekly column will include news of all types of shops and shopping throughout the country, with particular emphasis on good value, whatever the price range.

If Bernard Ashley had not baptised, years ago, at the idea of having his name associated with pretty, printed pinupes, we might never have heard of his wife. He was already producing furnishing fabrics under his name, so her tiny florals were launched under hers. Now, in 60 world-scattered shops, the Laura Ashley label is synonymous with all that is delicate and pretty in clothes, wall-papers and fabrics.

She has divided her latest ideas for home furnishings into three groups: the study collection, with its desk pad, picture frame, diary and photograph album; the dressing room collection of sponge and travel bags, lingerie bag, sewing roll, jewel and trinket boxes; and the dining collection of table-cloths, napkins, tea cosy, egg cosy, place mats, cutlery box and lampshade.

The dining collection is my favourite. Like many other housekeepers, I have one set of china for entertaining and a pile of oddments for family. I should love to have different sets to suit every mood: Royal Doulton for grand occasions, Thomas for when I was feeling pure in line if not in word and deed, French Provençal for summer luncheons, chunky brown pots for winter suppers. With, of course, all the appropriate tableware and glasses.

Laura Ashley I would keep for breakfast because it is such an exuberantly fresh way to start the day. The particular design I have chosen to illustrate is available in rose on white for the 18in diameter cloth, £13.75, and napkins, £2.25 for four and in white on rose for the lampshade, tea cosy, and egg cosy. From Laura Ashley in Lower Sloane Street and Bow Street and from all provincial branches. The pink ginger jar lamp base, £11.45, and the white coffee or tea pot, £19.30, with matching cup and saucer, £4.20, from the Crown Staffordshire Surrey collection, are all from Harrods.

Some of my colleagues devoted their talents this summer to inventing plausible excuses for not doing those jobs about the house for which they will happily now have no time. Others discovered the Pege Paint Pad.

This foam pad, with a hairy mohair surface and plastic or metal handle, is, apparently, enough to put most professional decorators out of business overnight. There seem to be two types of do-it-yourself enthusiasts: those who painstakingly brush over with nothing but the best bristles and those who defiantly wield a roller in spite of the fact that it sounds like a dyspeptic colonel. Friends from both groups assure me that they are now devoted disciples of Pege.

There are various sizes of pad. The speed painter, 6in x 4in, is for emulsion and can be attached to broom handle, so that you can reach ceilings. It costs £2.99. Then there is a set which consists of a 21in pad, a shield pad for panels and window frames, a plain tin pad and a linwand for varnishes. Together they cost £2.78, or you can buy each pad individually. The 4in one, for instance, costs 94p.

They are available in many do-it-yourself shops or from Selfridges, Oxford Street, London W1 who, of course, do mail order. I haven't tried them myself, but I am told they are easy to use and produce an excellent finish.

Above centre: Examples of French and German Art Deco at L'Odéon Deco, Fulham High Street, SW6. • Right: From the Marks and Spencer kitchen: sieve £2.99, bowl £2.50, canister £2.99, memo board £4.99, paper holder £2.99, measuring spoons 80p, flour shaker £2.50. • Below: Circular tablecloth £13.75, set of four napkins £2.25, tea-cosy £3.25, and lampshade £9.25 from branches of Laura Ashley. Lamp base £11.45, Crown Staffordshire coffee-pot £19.30, cup and saucer £4.20, all from Harrods.

Photographs by Trevor Sutton. Drawing by Wendy Jones



Afia in Baker Street, London, are known for very handsome and very expensive floorcoverings. Knobbly-textured berber carpets are favourite with many architects and interior designers. Put Afia and berber together and you would expect to carpet your home for something close to the national debt.

But this year Afia introduced their own berber in 100 per cent wool, 13ft wide and with either hessian or heavy density rubber backing. It costs only £6.75 a square yard, which for wool is quite remarkable. My only regret was that it was only in oatmeal, which is an excellent furnishing colour, but not entirely practical for all purposes.

Now Afia have produced this berber in an excellent brown, which they call mink and I would describe as nutmeg. If this goes as well as the oatmeal, they hope to extend the range of colours by the end of the year. They are willing to supply anywhere in the United Kingdom and their me in mind, temporary.

year for being the best in the Riesling class.

Because I started gathering news for this page before the opening of Liberty's Food Fair last Monday, I was given a pre-view of the specialties. Perhaps a pre-peer might be a better description, as the afternoon was wet and dark and the lights in the store room weren't working. But the torch and gas lamp provided save the array of delicacies in a distinct dormitory feast atmosphere of illegibility, and all the more tempting for that.

Anyone shopping in central London until December 22 will be able to see the display in full floodlight in the new department opened specially for the Fair. The entrance is through the men's wear department or at the side of the building in Foubert's Place.

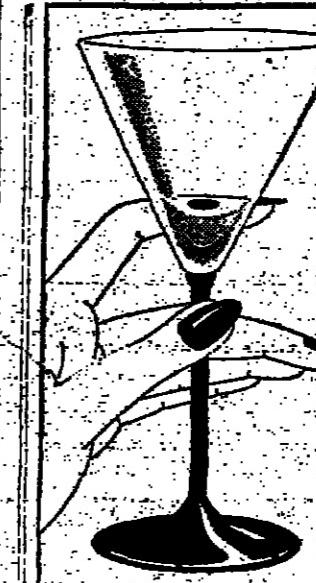
There are specialties from New Zealand, including fish, tua tua soup and oyster and scallop pâté, fresh passion fruit and ramarelos (tree tomatoes), and there will be a demonstration or tasting each day from noon until 2 pm. One of these will be a tasting of New Zealand wines and before the buffs start sharpening up their epithets about overtones of distilled kiwi, let me tell you that it was a New Zealand wine that won a prize in Paris this

The voucher is sent to your home address, made out in the appropriate currency, and you can then add your own greeting and send it off by air mail. There is a tie-up with various department stores where the vouchers can be spent, so the choice of gift at the recipient's end is wide. Last posting date for Australasia is December 5.

The bowls, for instance, have max insides, so that scratches don't show, and a rubber rim round the base to prevent slipping. The canisters also have the rubber rim and lids which fit so well that you can fill them with water and turn them upside down without spilling a drop. The plastic rims to the sieves are strongly welded on, even the measuring spoons have curved edges inside so that particles of food cannot cling.

I cover the memo board with its cork panel and holders for pencil, drawing pins and anything else that goes into the marking of all sorts. The flour shaker, which is unique. Instead of a single compartment which inevitably means that you have to put your hand over the holes when you tip it up to fill it, this one has a small container and an outer cover with a perforated top, which simply locks over it when filled, £2.50.

Other sample prices are: large bowl, £2.50; colander, £2.99; non-drip jug, £1.99. All are dishwasher safe and stain resistant and available in eight Marks and Spencer branches—Birmingham, Bristol, Maidenhead, Folkestone and the two in Oxford Street, London.



Two glasses for the party season. Thirties martini glass with black stem and base, £1.99, Elgin Court Shop, 2 Market Place, Woodstock, Oxfordshire; James Rossiter, 40/41 Broad Street, Bath, Insight, 37 Francis Street, Leicester; Inside Out Shop, Neal Street, London. Price varies from £3.30 to £3.80. Extravagant glass from the Thomas Range, £1.65 at Barkers, Kensington High Street and Army and Navy branches in SW1, shot, Camberley, Eastbourne, Guildford and Maidstone.

Drawing by Lyn Gray. Photographs by Lyn Gray



My "friend" John has just written to Texas to tell me of nationally famous Dr. Crawford, but he, like me, has no address and I can't get him to call. Friend, so I must bat him with his random questions.

Also, the subject of Crawford's cake is no longer international, nor is it about at gatherings in Warwickshire. But to send one to a friend at Christmas, I am assured, be delivered right to direct from his oven. Hell charge it to my Express card.

Ah, so that's it: admire the energy of American businesses, but I do not like American Express Company giving my name and a salesmen who make a direct mail shot.

But I am comforted at the date on the which arrived last week in Texas, Texas, August 1979, even if I had ordered cakes for my friend couldn't possibly be delivered by Christmas. Joy is to live in with a political series against foreign sales. The second class.

Something old, new, something borrowed, blue—and a set of stainless steel pans. Those pre-requisites of life when I was married; I tell it was some years ago before cookware in blue period, and I avocados, mustard and applesauce on the stainless steel.

I still have those stainless steel cookware pieces, given to me, chipped and bent, thrown away, was not a great deviation from the revolution in Tower Housewares. They really are brilliant. You can even beat whisk and add you won't stick.

So I was delighted to receive a new range to include tins-for-everything. There are 16 items, from bowls and colanders to spice rack and kitchen paper holder.

They are strong, heat-resistant plastic in chocolate brown, pillar box red or whisky. I am not suggesting that the idea is new, but I can tell you that this range, which took 18 months to develop, has design features which make it quite the best of its kind.

